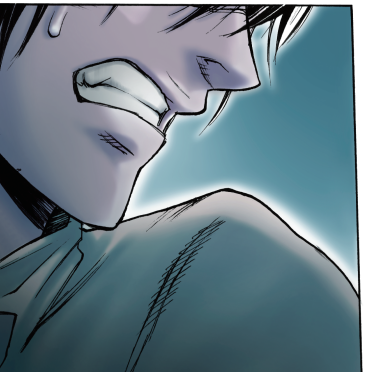
ATTACK ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL
12
ART BY SATOSHI SHIKI STORY BY RYO SUZUKAZE
ATTACK ON TITAN CREATED BY HAJIME ISAYAMA
CHARACTER DESIGNS BY THORES SHIBAMOTO

CRAK



Based on "Attack on Titan"
created by Hajime Isayama
Story by: Ryo Suzukaze
Art by: Satoshi Shiki
Character Designs by: Thores Shibamoto

Chapter 41: Cornerstone of the Corps
Chapter 42: Traveling Skies
Chapter 43: Wellspring of the Restoration
Chapter 44: Long-Awaited Weapon

ATTACK ON TITAN
12
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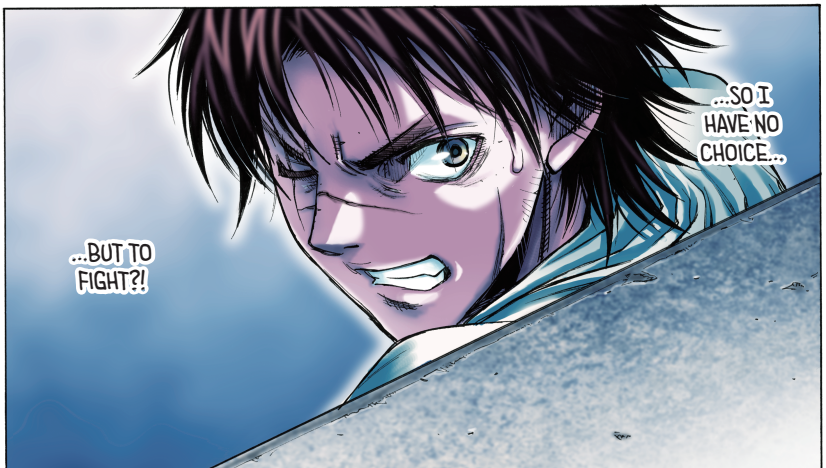
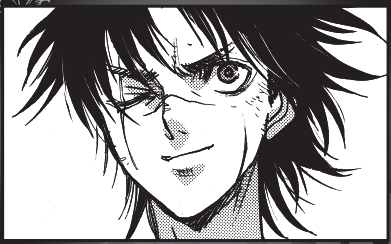

...SO I HAVE NO CHOICE...
...BUT TO FIGHT?!

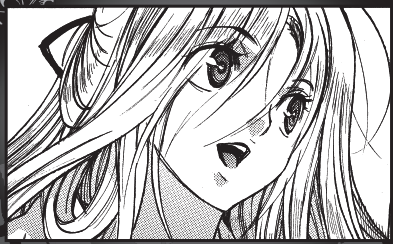
Before the fall Character Profiles

Kuklo

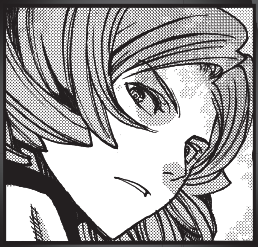


A 15-year-old boy born from a dead body packed into the vomit of a Titan, which earned him the moniker, "Titan's Son." He is fascinated with the Device as a means to defeat the Titans. Xavi defeated him in battle and left him for dead, until Rosa's group found and rescued him.

Sharle Inocencio

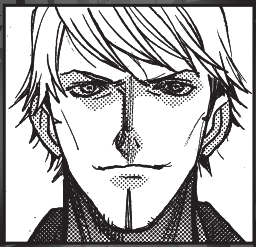


First daughter of the Inocencios, a rich merchant family within Wall Sheena. When she realized that Kuklo was a human, she taught him to speak and learn. She escaped her family home and went into the underground ward in search of Angel, inventor of the Device.



Cardina Baumeister

Kuklo's first friend in the outside world, and his companion in developing the Device.

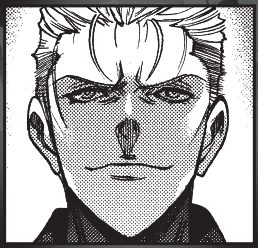


Carlo Pikale

Jorge's son and current captain of the Survey Corps. After they battled Titans together, he has great respect for Kuklo.

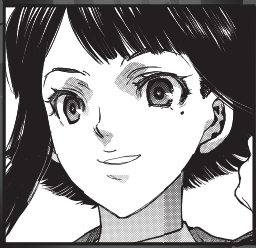
Jorge Pikale

Training Corps instructor. A former Survey Corps captain who was hailed as a hero for defeating a Titan.



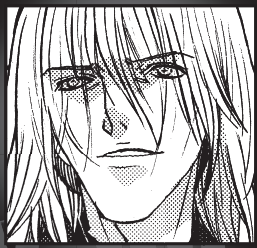
Xavi Inocencio

Head of the Inocencio family and Sharle's brother. Member of the Military Police in Shiganshina District.



Rosa Carlstead

The daughter of Maria and Sorum, Angel's longtime friends. She's in training now, hoping to enter the Survey Corps.



Angel Aaltonen

A former inventor who developed a tool to fight the Titans 15 years ago, known simply as "The Device."

The Story So Far

When a Titan terrorized Shiganshina District and left behind a pile of vomit, a baby boy was miraculously born of a pregnant corpse. This boy was named Kuklo, the "Titan's Son," and treated as a sideshow freak. Eventually the wealthy merchant Dario Inocencio bought Kuklo to serve as a punching bag for his son, Xavi. On the other hand, when she learned he was human and not the son of a Titan, Xavi's sister Sharle decided to teach him the words and knowledge of humanity instead. Two years later, Kuklo escaped from the mansion along with Sharle, who was being forced into a marriage she did not desire.

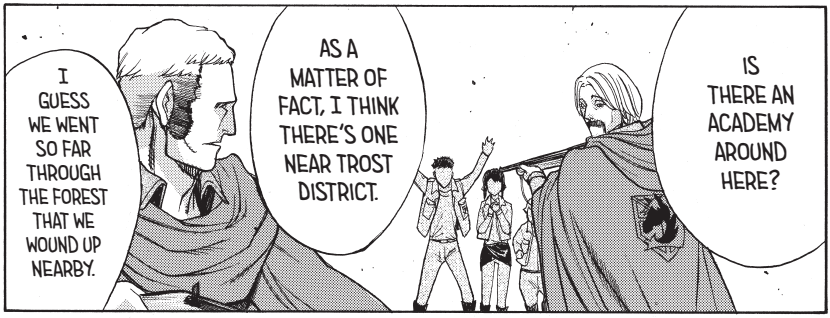
In Shiganshina District, the Survey Corps was preparing for its first expedition outside of the wall in 15 years. Kuklo snuck into the expedition's cargo wagon, but the Titan they ran across was far worse of a monster than he expected. He helped the Survey Corps survive, but inside the walls he was greeted by the Military Police, who wanted the "Titan's Son" on charges of murdering Dario. In prison, he met Cardina, a young man jailed over political squabbles. They hoped to escape to safety when exiled beyond the Wall, but found themselves surrounded by a pack of Titans. It was through the help of Jorge, former Survey Corps Captain and first human to defeat a Titan, that the two boys escaped with their lives. The equipment that Jorge used was the very "Device" that was the key to defeating the Titan those 15 years ago. Kuklo and Cardina escaped the notice of the MPs by hiding in the Industrial City, where they found Sharle. It is there that the three youngsters learned the truth of the ill-fated Titan-capturing expedition 15 years earlier, and swore to uphold the will of Angel, the inventor of the Device.

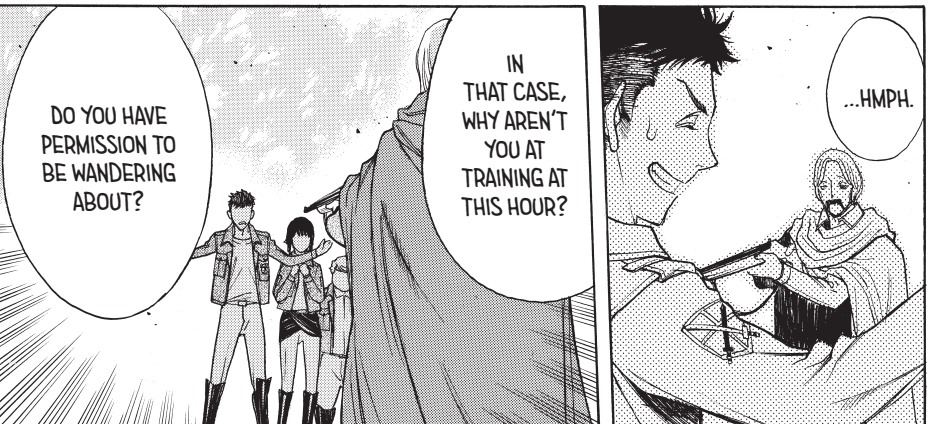
Next, Kuklo and Cardina headed back to Shiganshina to test out a new model of the Device developed by Xenophon, Angel's friend and rival, but while they were gone, a rebellion by anti-establishment dissidents broke out in the Industrial City. Kuklo was able to slip through the chaos to rescue Sharle from the dissidents. But just as they started to celebrate their reunion, Sharle's brother Xavi arrived, and turned his sword on Kuklo. Xavi won the battle by inflicting a grievous blow on Kuklo, who fell into the river and washed up downstream, where Rosa and her companions found him. Sharle was taken back to the Inocencio mansion, but following her belief that Kuklo was still alive, she escaped and headed underground to find Angel, whom she convinced to help improve the Device. Meanwhile, the Military Police were closing in on Kuklo's hideout in the woods, looking for remnants of the dissident movement.

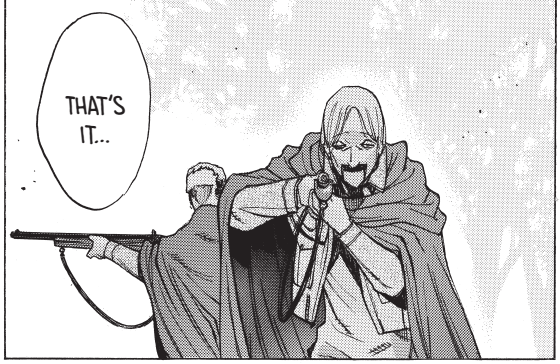
!!
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING OVER THERE?!
ZNSH

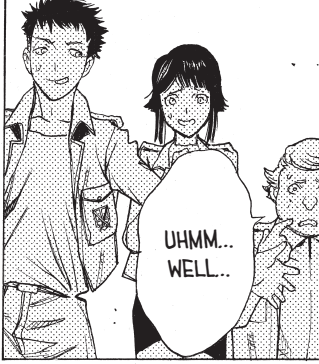
EASY, EASY!
WHOA!
WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE ?!

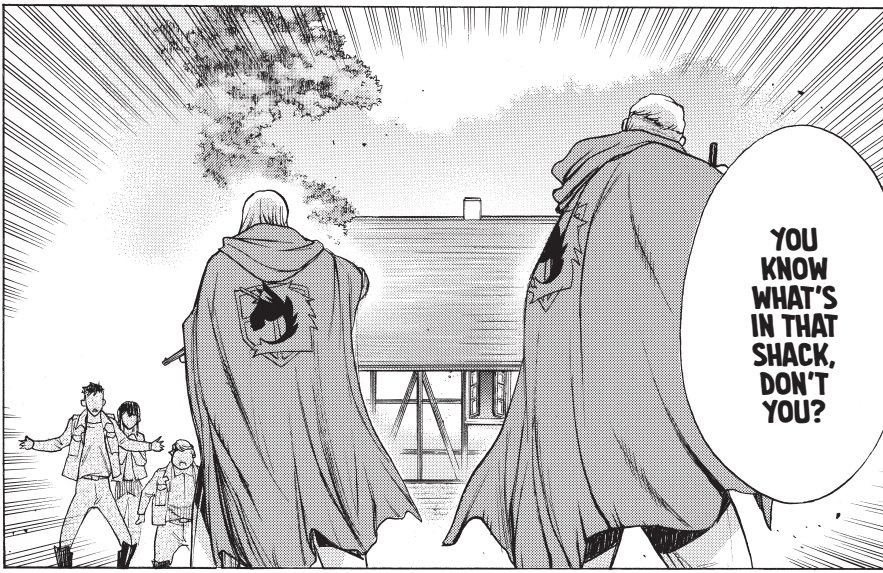
WE'RE NOT UP TO ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS!
LOOK! WE'RE JUST TRAINEES!


I GUESS WE WENT SO FAR THROUGH THE FOREST THAT WE WOUND UP NEARBY.
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I THINK THERE'S ONE NEAR TROST DISTRICT.
IS THERE AN ACADEMY AROUND HERE?


DO YOU HAVE PERMISSION TO BE WANDERING ABOUT?
IN THAT CASE, WHY AREN'T YOU AT TRAINING AT THIS HOUR?
...HMPH.

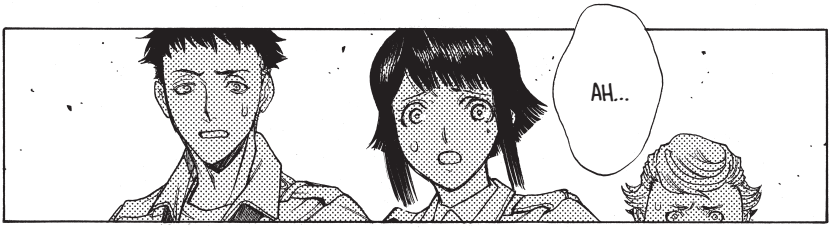

THAT'S IT...

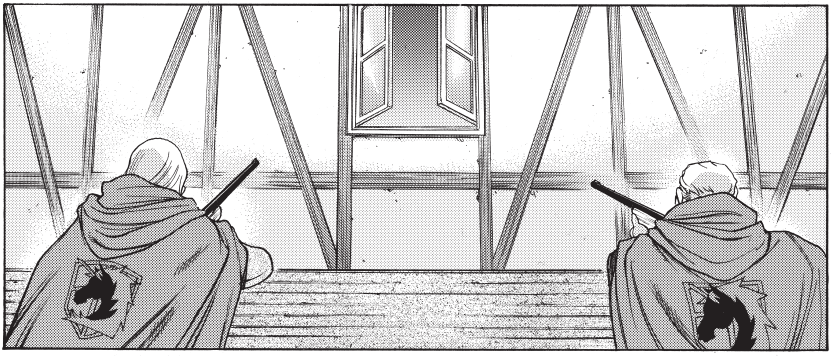

UHMM... WELL...

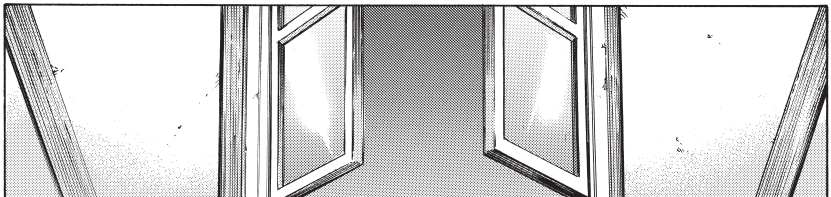

YOU KNOW WHAT'S IN THAT SHACK, DON'T YOU?

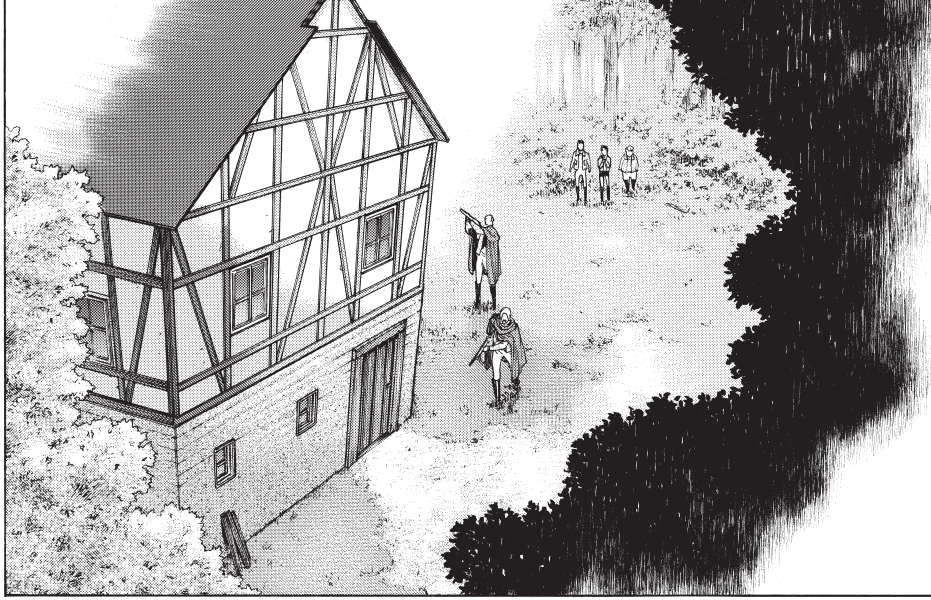
WE FOUND IT DURING AN OUTDOOR EXERCISE, AND WE'VE BEEN USING IT AS A WAYPOINT FOR OUR FOREST SURVEY TRAINING!
WE WERE... UM...
IT...IT'S JUST...EMPTY! I B-BELIEVE IT USED TO BELONG TO A HUNTER!

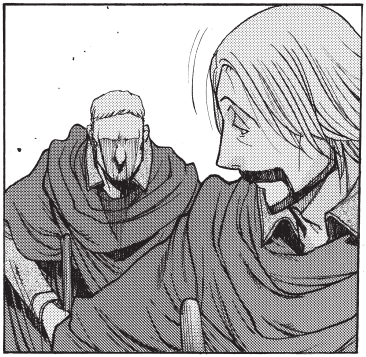
LET'S TAKE A LOOK FOR OUR-SELVES.
UH-HUH...


AH...

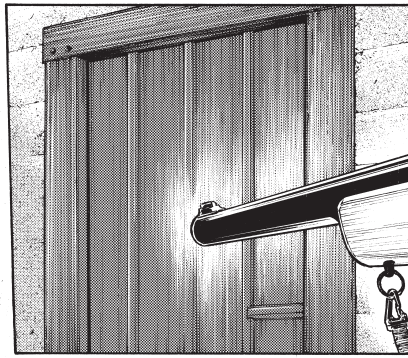






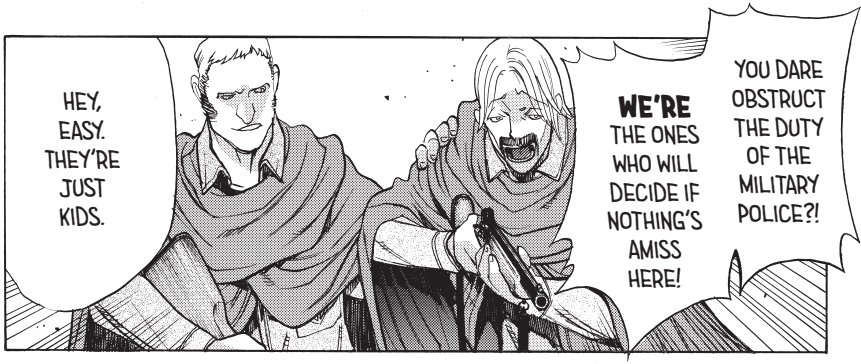


!
TEK



!
LEAP
UM, H-HEY! WAIT!

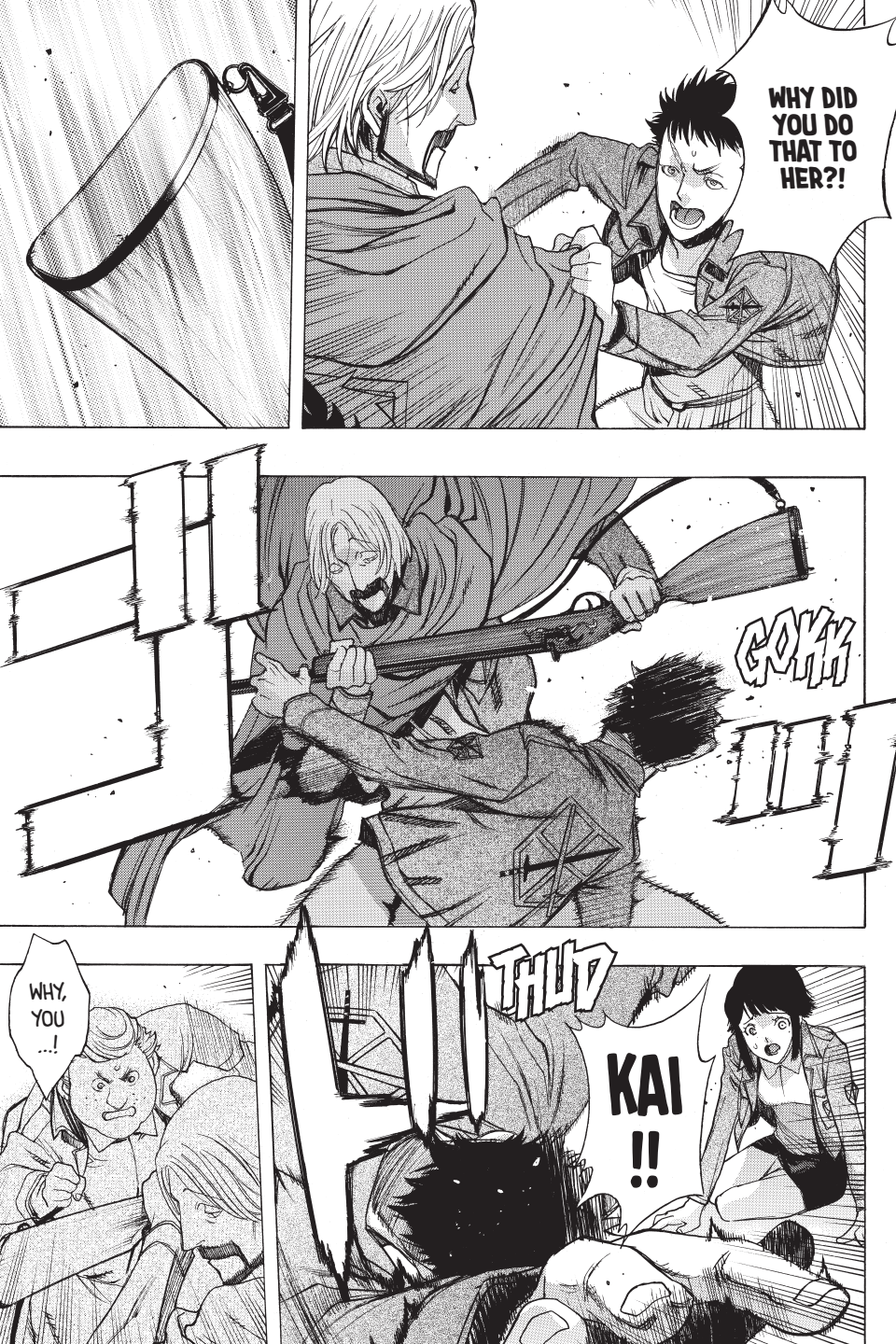
BUT THERE'S NOTHING ELSE GOING ON HERE, NOTHING FUNNY AT ALL...
LET ME EXPLAIN! WE'VE BEEN USING THE SHACK THIS WHOLE TIME...

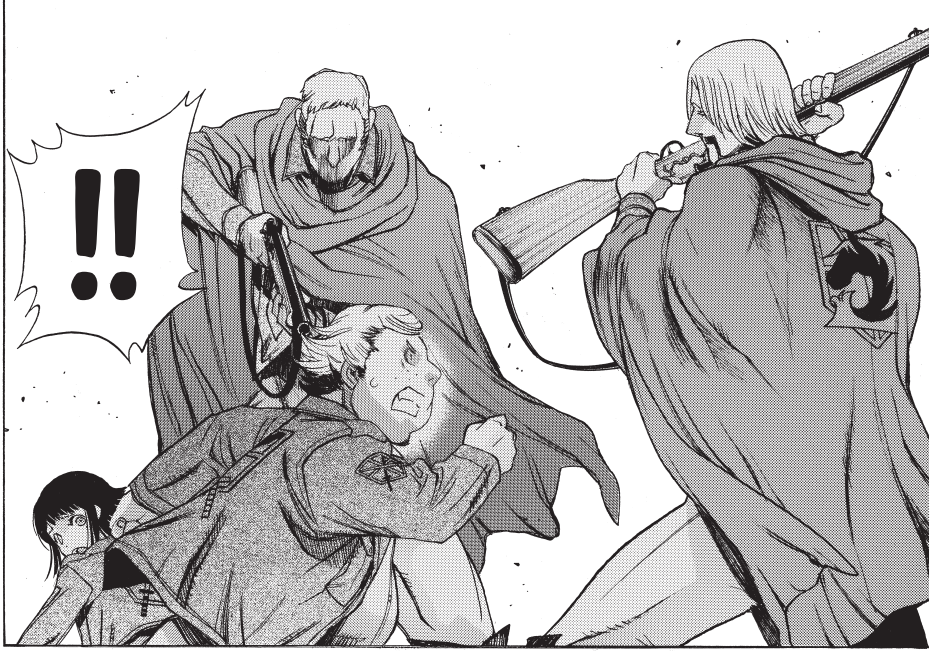

HEY, EASY. THEY'RE JUST KIDS.
WE'RE THE ONES WHO WILL DECIDE IF NOTHING'S AMISS HERE!
YOU DARE OBSTRUCT THE DUTY OF THE MILITARY POLICE?!

I JUST THOUGHT I'D SAVE YOU THE TROUBLE OF LOOKING. I DON'T WANT YOU TO WASTE YOUR VALUABLE TIME...
THERE'S NOTHING. IT'S JUST A TINY LITTLE SHACK...

...IF WE LOOK INSIDE?
IS THERE ANYTHING IN THAT SHACK THAT MIGHT GET YOU IN TROUBLE...
...NO!

HMM...
ALL RIGHT, ENOUGH GAMES! LET'S SEARCH THE SHACK AND GET THIS OVER WITH!!
N-NO, WAIT...
THUMP
ドサッ
ROSA !!
AAAH!
!!
SHOVE
OUT OF THE WAY !!


WHY DID YOU DO THAT TO HER?!
GOKK
WHY, YOU ...!
THUD
KAI !!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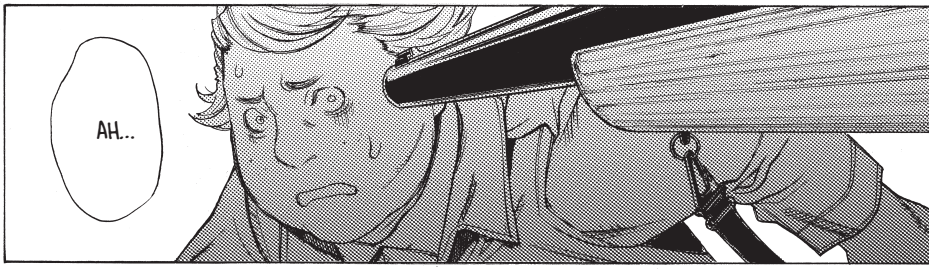
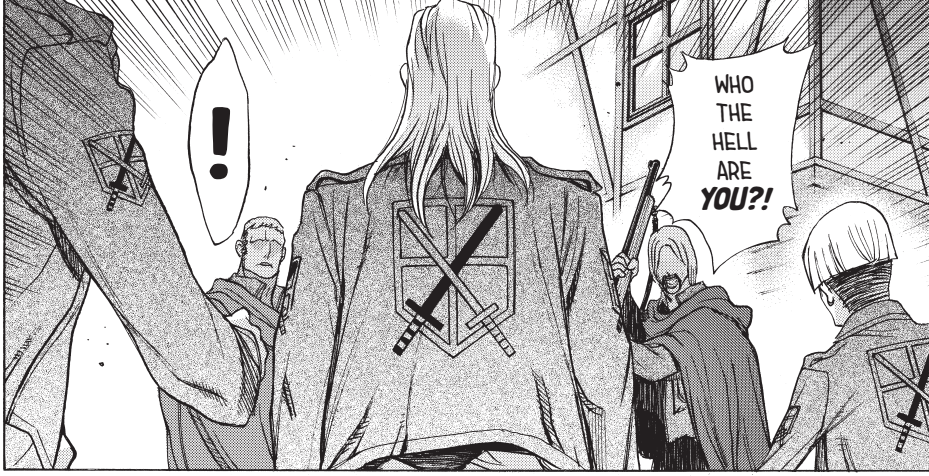
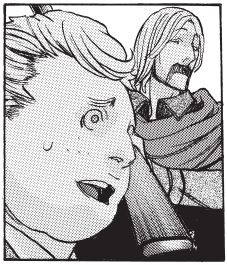
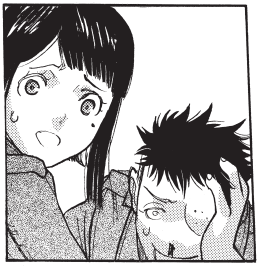

AH...

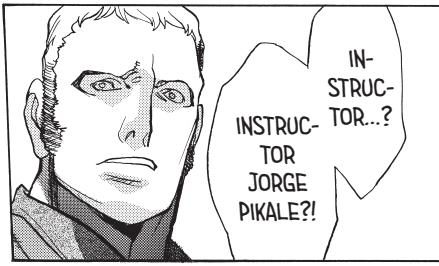
NOOOO!!

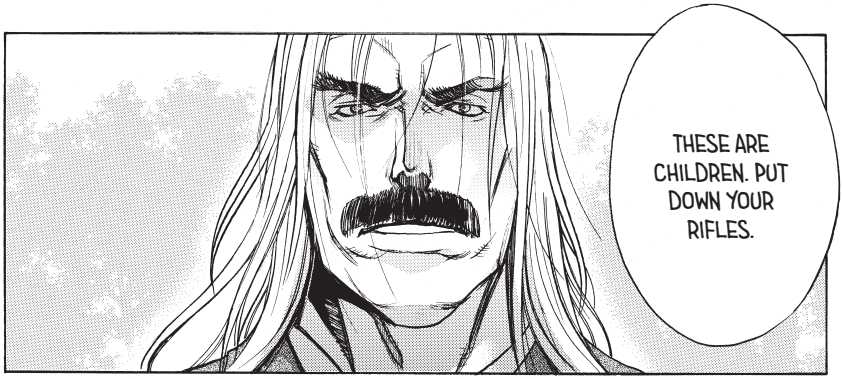
I THINK THAT WILL BE ENOUGH.

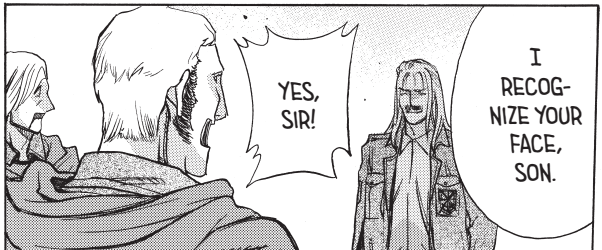

!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!

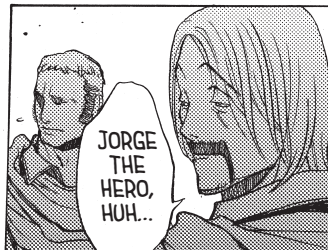




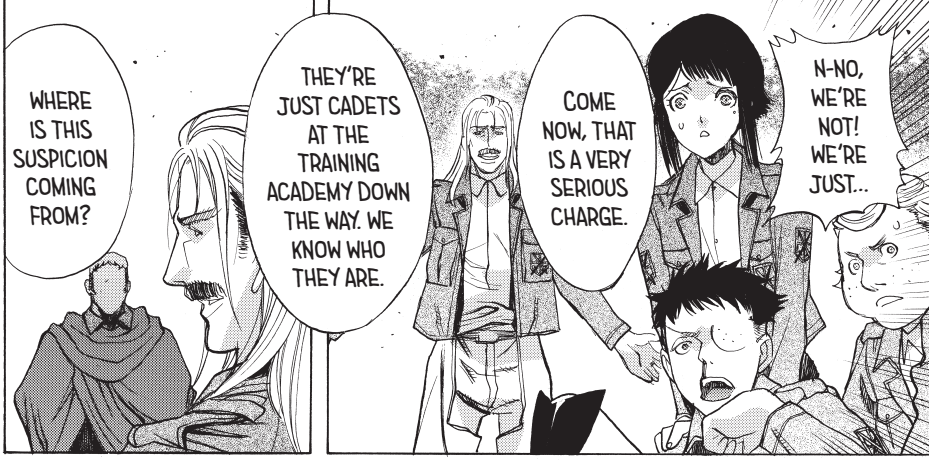

INSTRUCTOR...?
INSTRUCTOR JORGE PIKALE?!

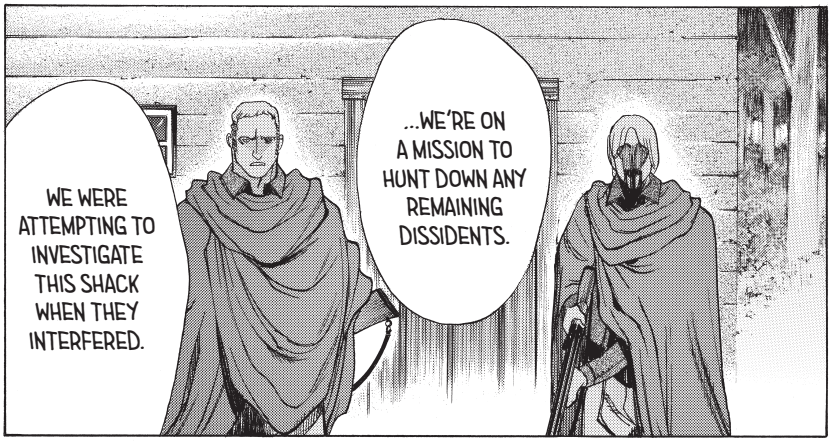

THESE ARE CHILDREN. PUT DOWN YOUR RIFLES.

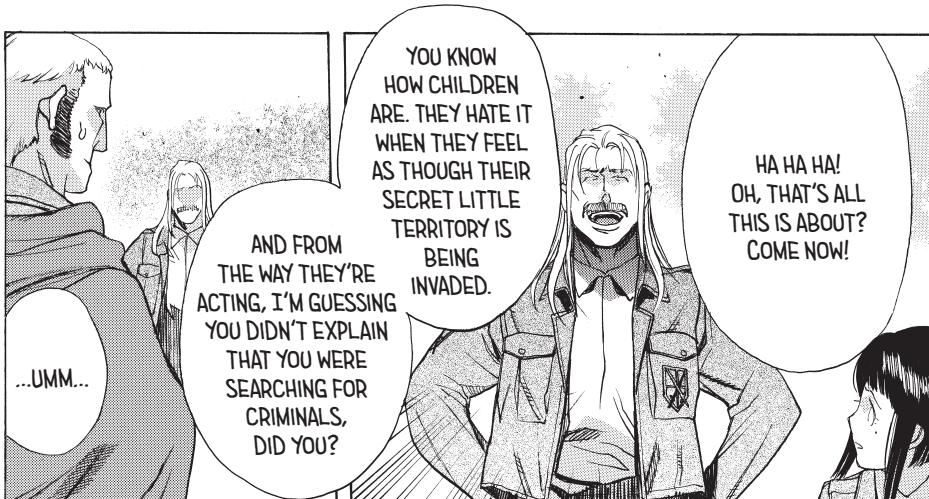

YES, SIR!
I RECOGNIZE YOUR FACE, SON.

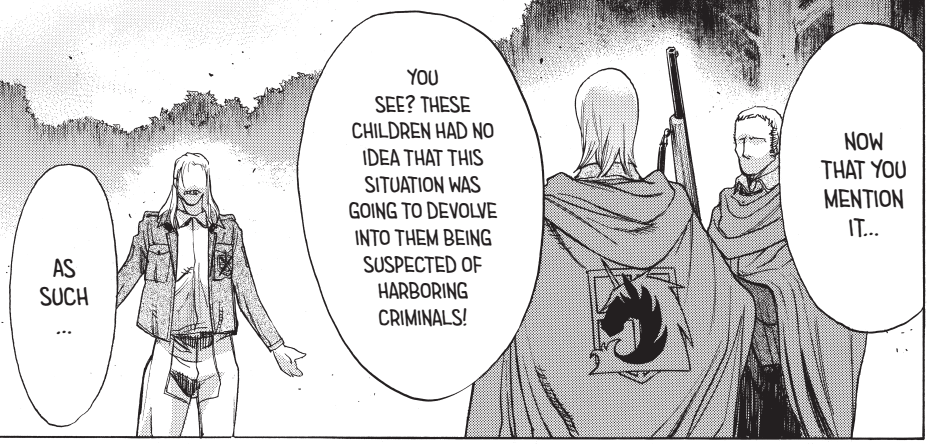

JORGE THE HERO, HUH...

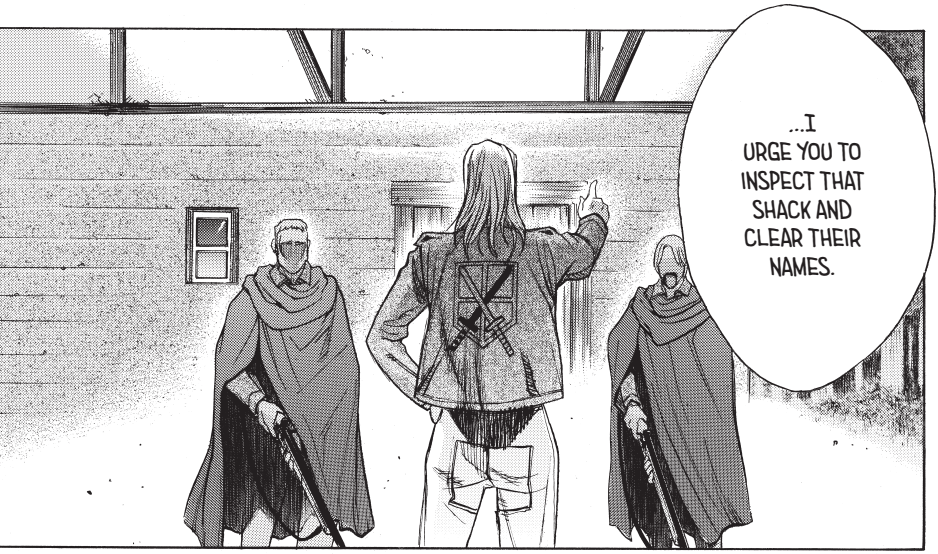
SO...
I'M HONORED THAT YOU REMEMBER ME, SIR!
YOU MUST'VE BEEN A PUPIL OF MINE AT THE ACADEMY...
CAN YOU EXPLAIN TO ME WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?
!!
THESE CADETS ARE SUSPECTED OF HARBORING ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT RADICALS.


WHERE IS THIS SUSPICION COMING FROM?
THEY'RE JUST CADETS AT THE TRAINING ACADEMY DOWN THE WAY. WE KNOW WHO THEY ARE.
COME NOW, THAT IS A VERY SERIOUS CHARGE.
N-NO, WE'RE NOT! WE'RE JUST...

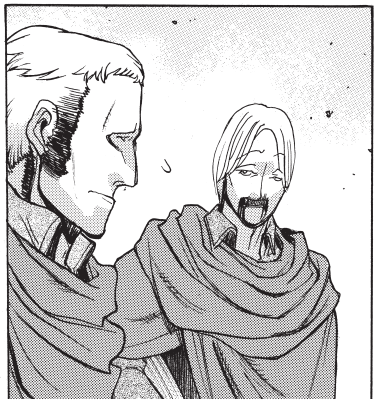

WE WERE ATTEMPTING TO INVESTIGATE THIS SHACK WHEN THEY INTERFERED.
...WE'RE ON A MISSION TO HUNT DOWN ANY REMAINING DISSIDENTS.

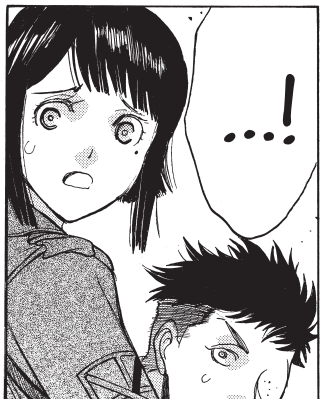

...UMM...
AND FROM THE WAY THEY'RE ACTING, I'M GUESSING YOU DIDN'T EXPLAIN THAT YOU WERE SEARCHING FOR CRIMINALS, DID YOU?
YOU KNOW HOW CHILDREN ARE. THEY HATE IT WHEN THEY FEEL AS THOUGH THEIR SECRET LITTLE TERRITORY IS BEING INVADED.
HA HA HA! OH, THAT'S ALL THIS IS ABOUT? COME NOW!

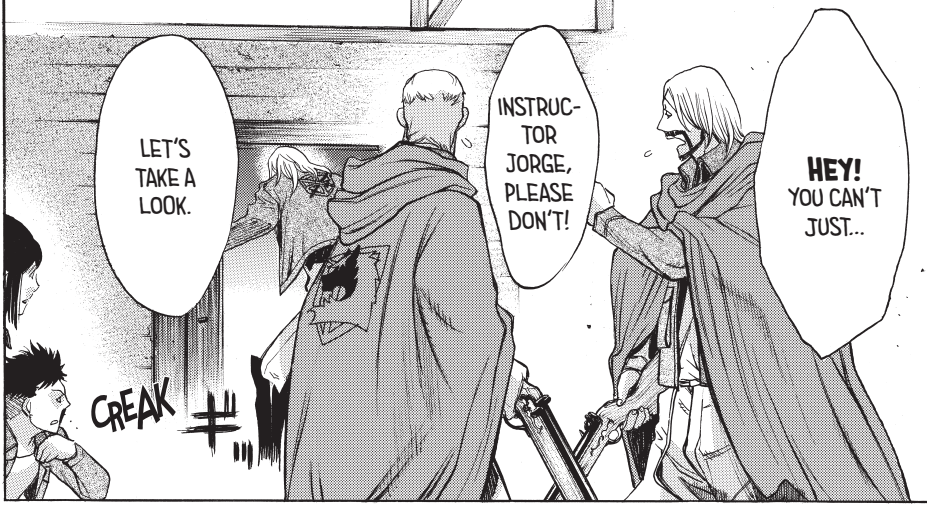

AS SUCH ...
YOU SEE? THESE CHILDREN HAD NO IDEA THAT THIS SITUATION WAS GOING TO DEVOLVE INTO THEM BEING SUSPECTED OF HARBORING CRIMINALS!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...


...I URGE YOU TO INSPECT THAT SHACK AND CLEAR THEIR NAMES.

ZSH

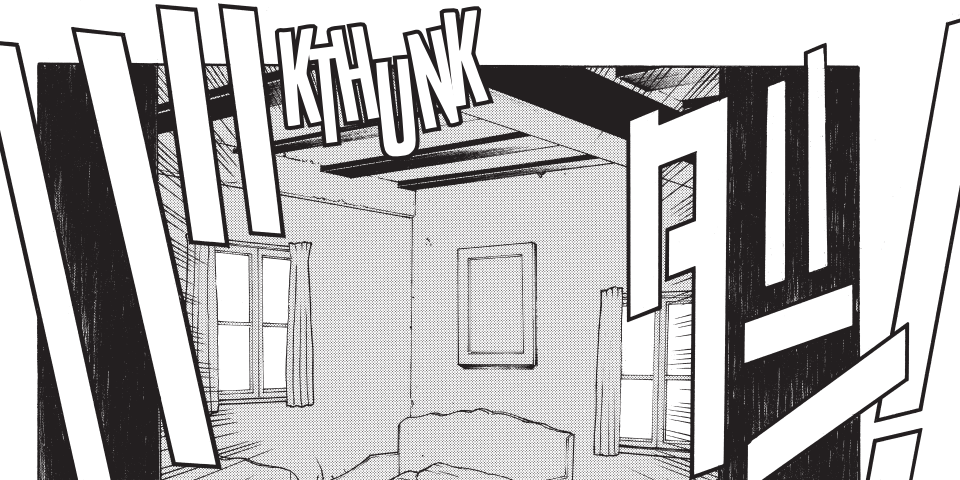



...!


LET'S TAKE A LOOK.
INSTRUC-TOR JORGE, PLEASE DON'T!
HEY! YOU CAN'T JUST...
CREAK

YEAH!
LET'S GO, TOO!

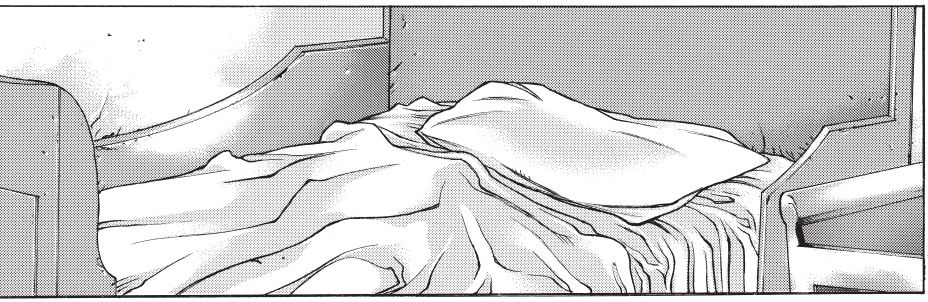
TSK!

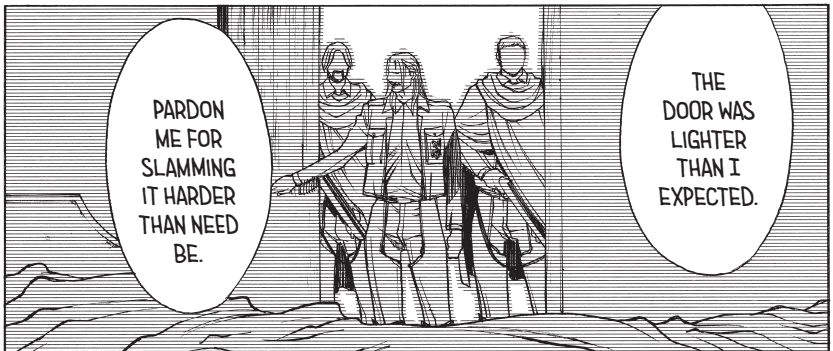

KTHUNK

HRMM.

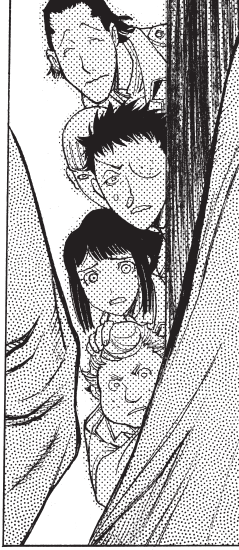
CREAK

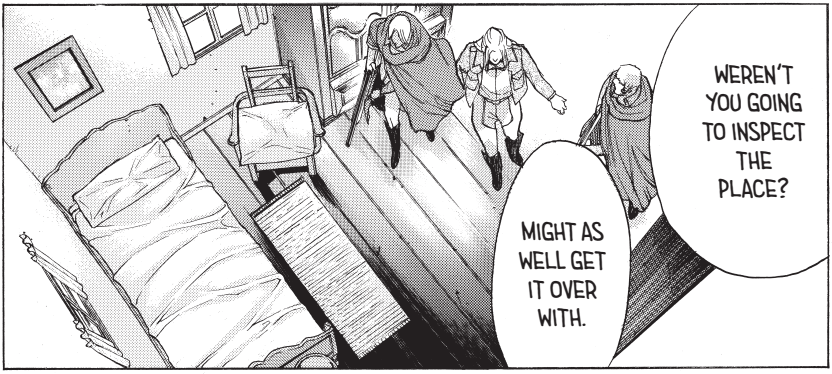
CREAK

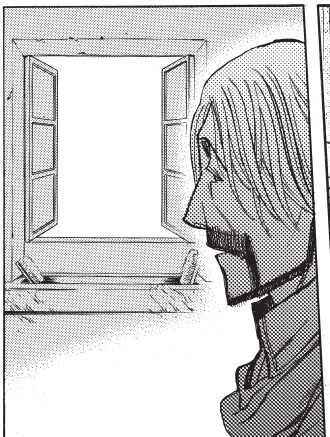


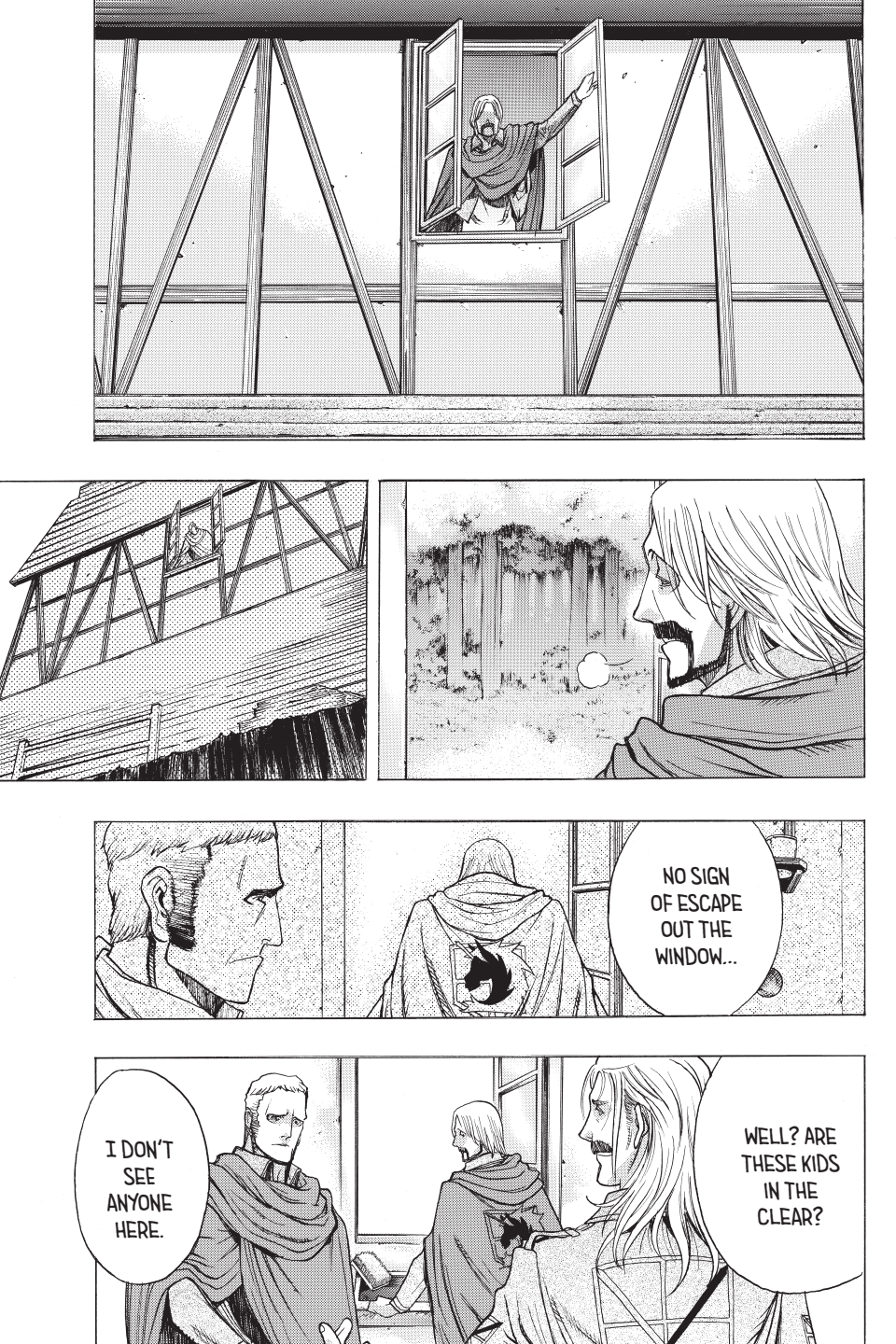


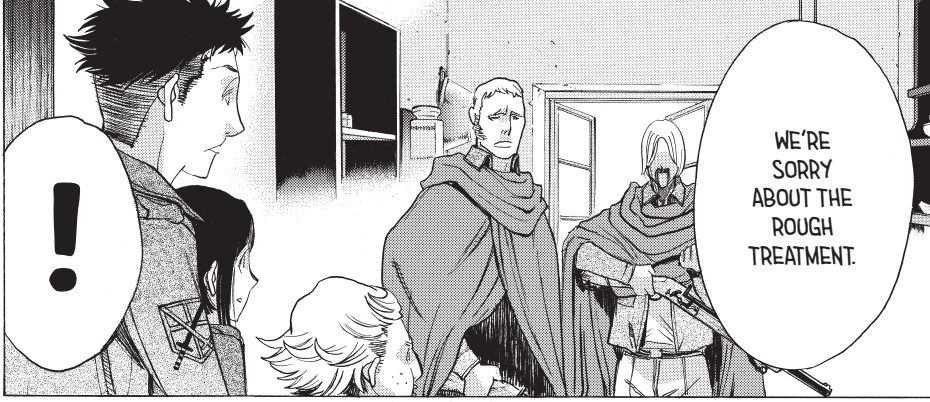
RATHER TIDY LITTLE PLACE FOR A HUNTER'S SHACK.
IT LOOKS TO BE A GOOD SPOT TO REST.



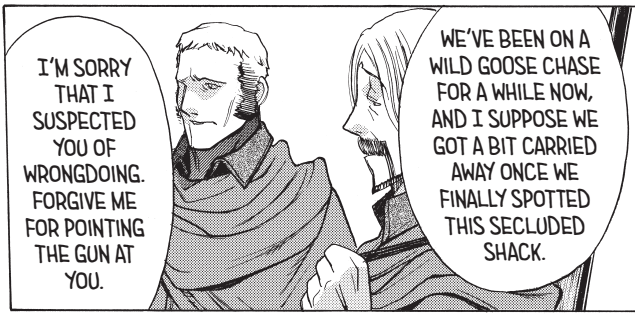

WEREN'T YOU GOING TO INSPECT THE PLACE?
MIGHT AS WELL GET IT OVER WITH.

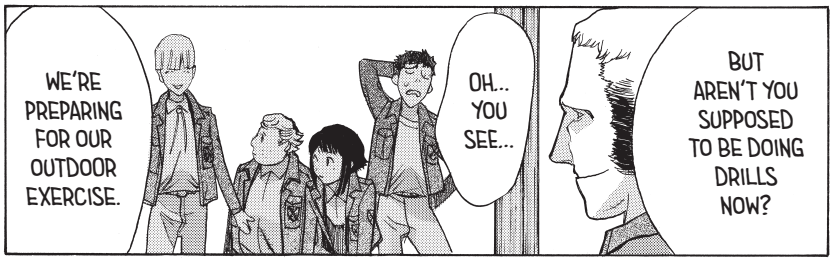


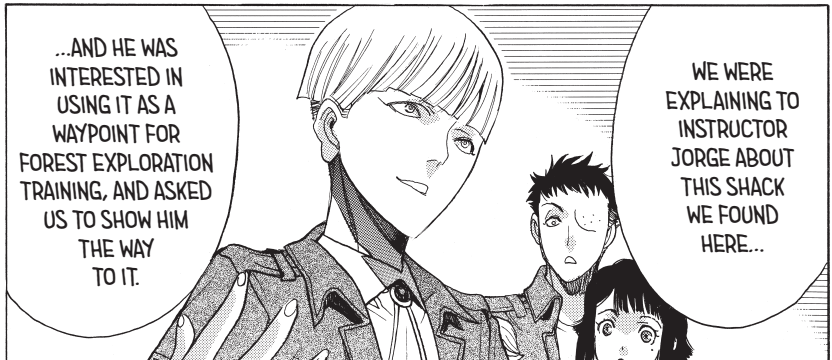

NO SIGN OF ESCAPE OUT THE WINDOW...
I DON'T SEE ANYONE HERE.
WELL? ARE THESE KIDS IN THE CLEAR?


!
WE'RE SORRY ABOUT THE ROUGH TREATMENT.

AW, SHUCKS ...WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE ...


I'M SORRY THAT I SUSPECTED YOU OF WRONGDOING. FORGIVE ME FOR POINTING THE GUN AT YOU.
WE'VE BEEN ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE FOR A WHILE NOW, AND I SUPPOSE WE GOT A BIT CARRIED AWAY ONCE WE FINALLY SPOTTED THIS SECLUDED SHACK.

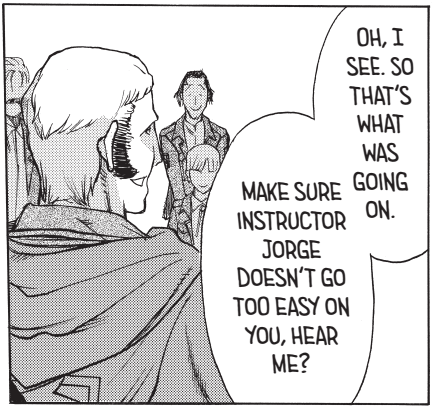

WE'RE PREPARING FOR OUR OUTDOOR EXERCISE.
OH... YOU SEE...
BUT AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE DOING DRILLS NOW?

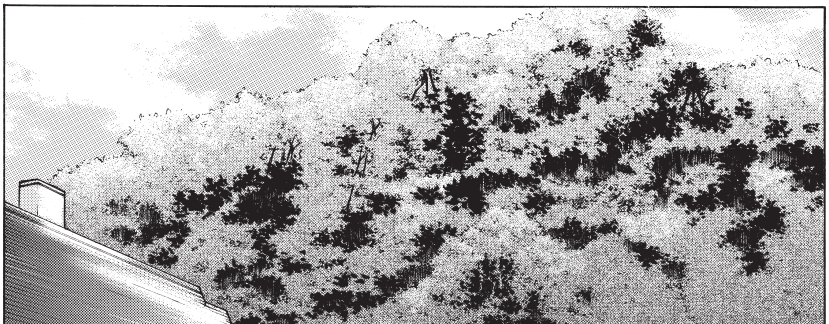

...AND HE WAS INTERESTED IN USING IT AS A WAYPOINT FOR FOREST EXPLORATION TRAINING, AND ASKED US TO SHOW HIM THE WAY TO IT.
WE WERE EXPLAINING TO INSTRUCTOR JORGE ABOUT THIS SHACK WE FOUND HERE...

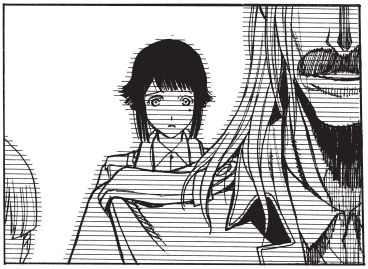
THAT WAS WHEN WE RAN INTO YOU HERE.
SO THOSE THREE WENT AHEAD TO SHACK TO THE CLEAN IT UP A LITTLE BIT BEFORE HE ARRIVED.

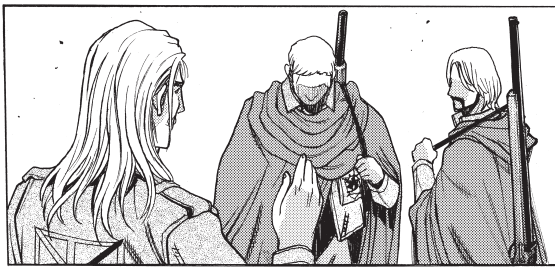
Y... YESSIR.
MAKE SURE TO PUT SOME ICE ON YOUR EYE FOR THE SWELLING.

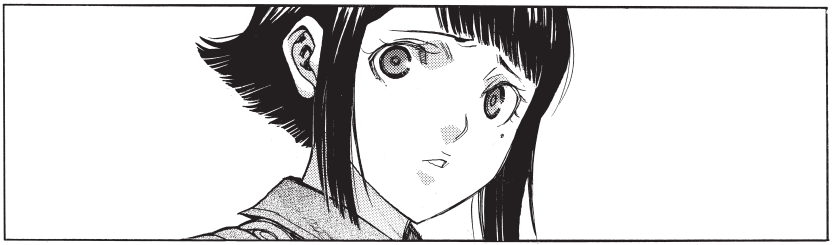
ポン
PAT


OH, I SEE. SO THAT'S WHAT WAS GOING ON.
MAKE SURE INSTRUCTOR JORGE DOESN'T GO TOO EASY ON YOU, HEAR ME?

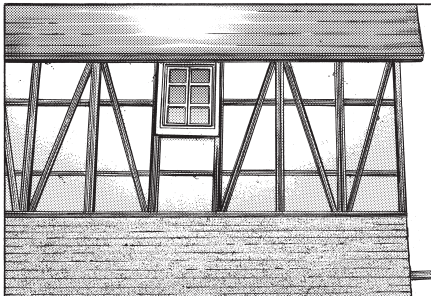




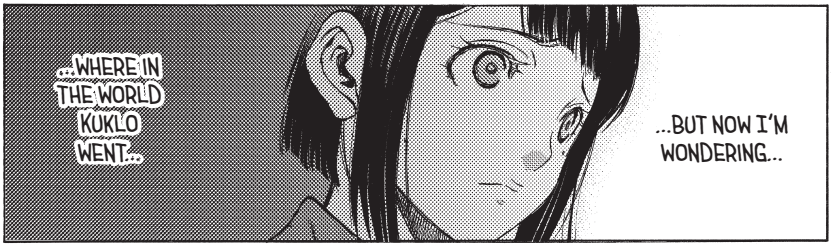


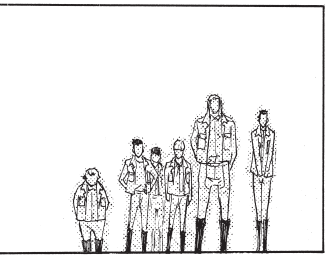


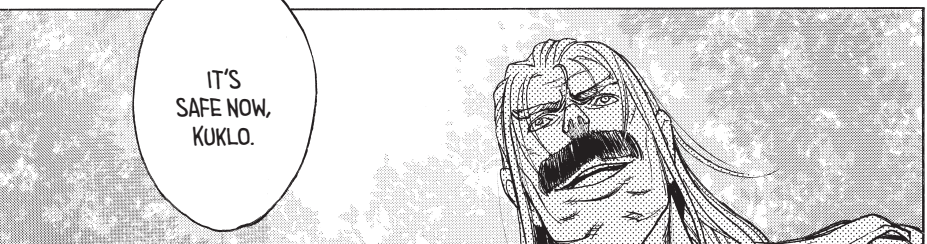
THE BEST WAY WOULD BE TO HEAD BACK THROUGH THE ACADEMY.
I'M NOT SURE WE COULD FIND IT JUST CHARGING THROUGH THE FOREST.
OH, COULD YOU TELL US HOW TO GET BACK TO THE MAIN ROAD?



WELL...I'M GLAD THEY DIDN'T UNCOVER OUR LITTLE SCHEME...
TO GET TO THE SCHOOL, FIRST YOU'LL NEED TO...


...WHERE IN THE WORLD KUKLO WENT...
...BUT NOW I'M WONDERING...




IT'S SAFE NOW, KUKLO.

!
ZSH

SHAK

INSTRUCTOR JORGE !!

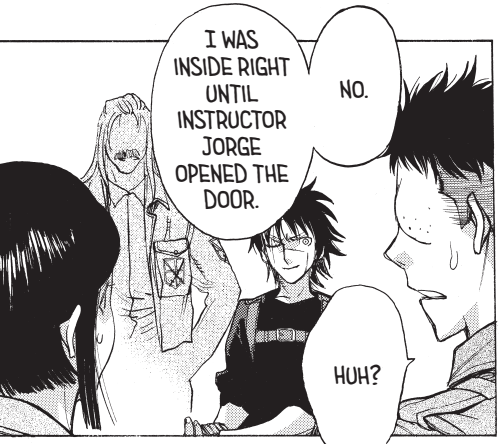
I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

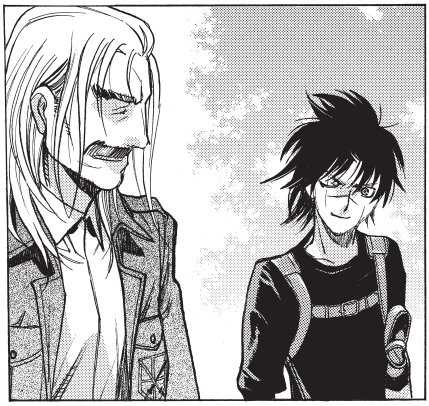
NOT HALF AS GLAD AS I AM! YOU HAD ME SO WORRIED!!

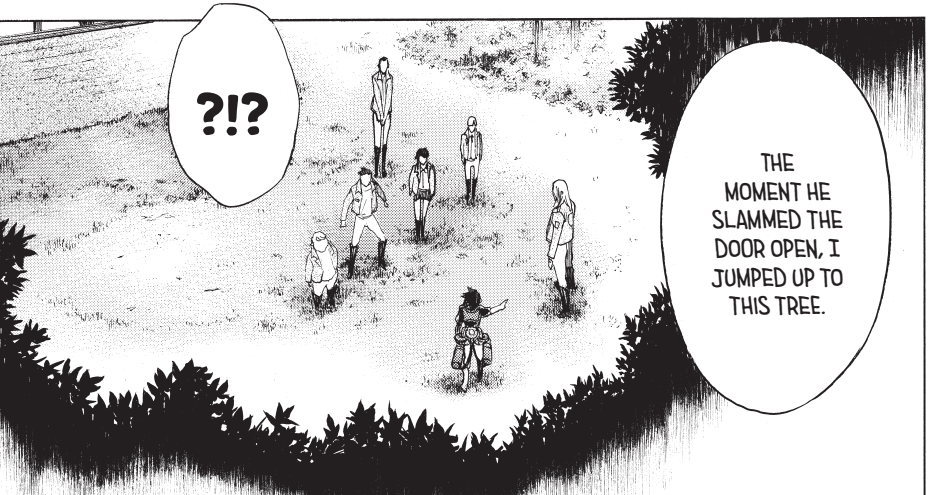
UM... K-KUKLO ...?

WHAT ?

WHEN DID YOU GET UP IN THAT TREE...?
WERE YOU THERE BEFORE WE SHOWED UP?!


NO.
I WAS INSIDE RIGHT UNTIL INSTRUCTOR JORGE OPENED THE DOOR.
HUH?




THE MOMENT HE SLAMMED THE DOOR OPEN, I JUMPED UP TO THIS TREE.
?!?

YOU ENDED UP GETTING PUNCHED ON MY ACCOUNT.

SORRY? FOR WHAT?

SORRY ABOUT THAT, KAI.

YES.

YOU **JUMPED** THAT FAR?!

PLUS, IT WOULD'VE BEEN MUCH WORSE FOR US IF THEY'D SEEN YOU.

YEAH, YOU BET! I'M A TOUGH GUY!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM. KAI CAN TAKE A FEW PUNCHES!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO ARRIVE TWO OR THREE DAYS LATER, THOUGH.

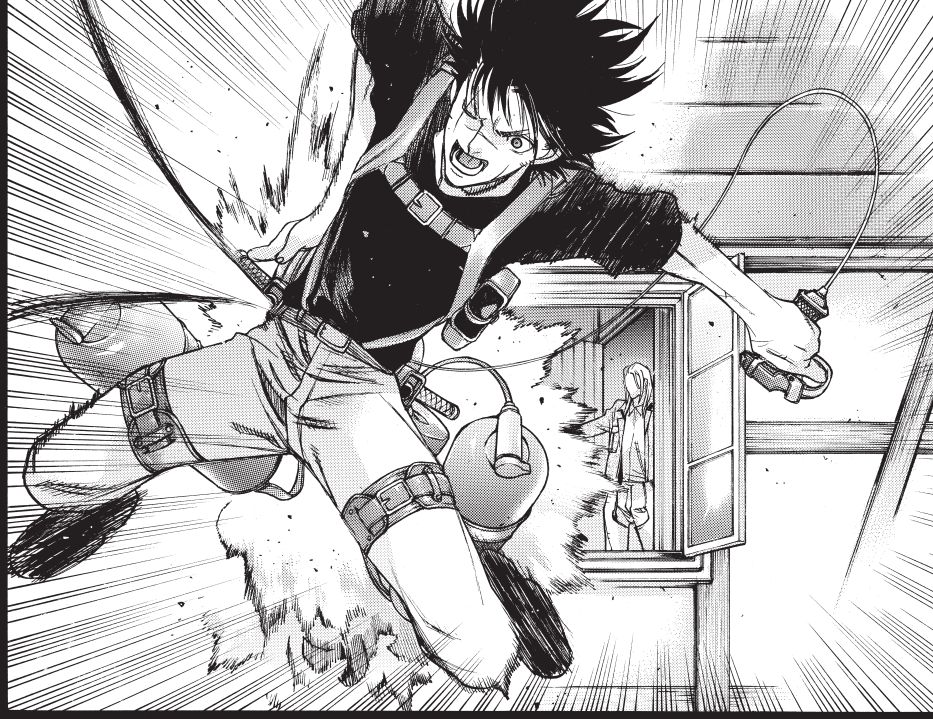
IT WAS A GOOD THING THAT YOU SHOWED UP WHEN YOU DID.

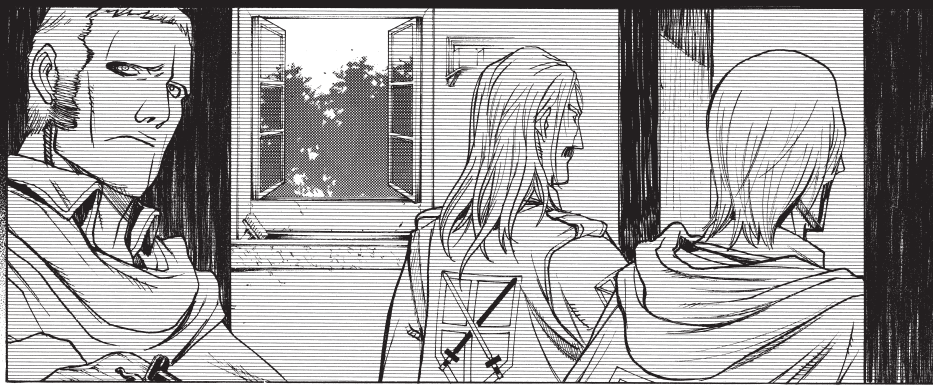
BUT I CAN EXPLAIN THAT LATER.

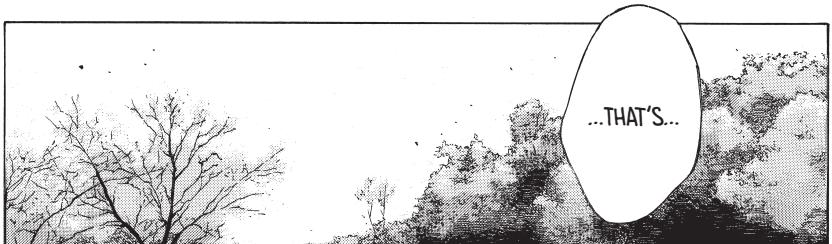
MY PLANS CHANGED...

WE WERE ABLE TO ALERT HIM AND SHOW HIM WHERE TO FIND YOU.
AT ANY RATE, IT WAS FORTUNATE THAT I WAS ABLE TO VISIT THIS TRAINING ACADEMY EARLY.
KUKLO...
HOW DID YOU JUMP OVER THERE ...?
HOW DID YOU VANISH FROM THE SHACK ...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOU JUMPED ?!!
HE'S RIGHT, KUKLO !!
IN FACT ...
THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU SHOULD BE WONDER-ING ABOUT!
HUGO JUST... TALKED ?!!

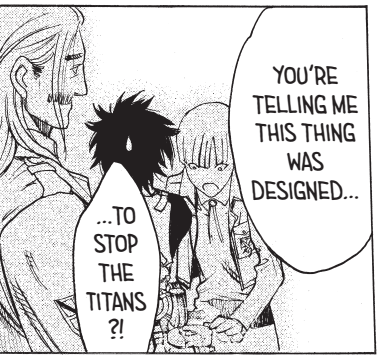
WELL...

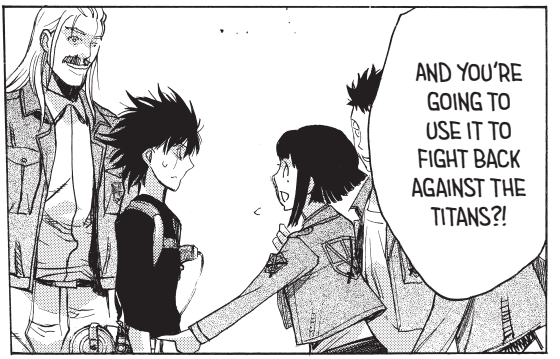


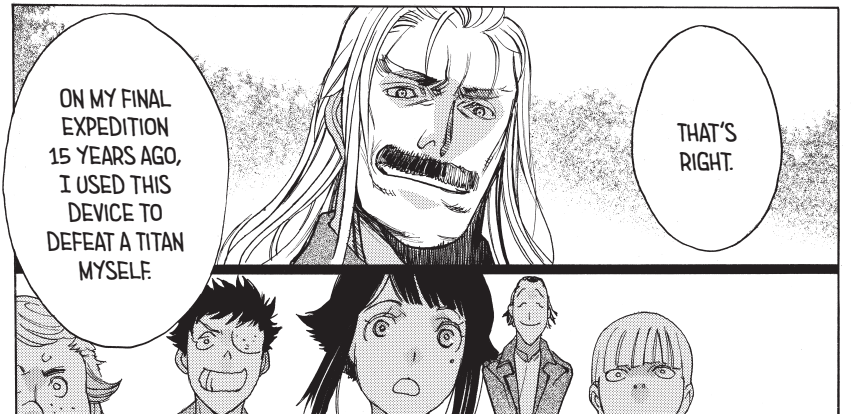



...THAT'S...

PEOPLE CAN MOVE INSTANTLY THROUGH THE AIR WITH THAT?!
...AMAZING !!


YOU'RE TELLING ME THIS THING WAS DESIGNED...
...TO STOP THE TITANS ?!


AND YOU'RE GOING TO USE IT TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST THE TITANS?!


ON MY FINAL EXPEDITION 15 YEARS AGO, I USED THIS DEVICE TO DEFEAT A TITAN MYSELF.
THAT'S RIGHT.

NOW, NOW, HOLD YOUR HORSES.

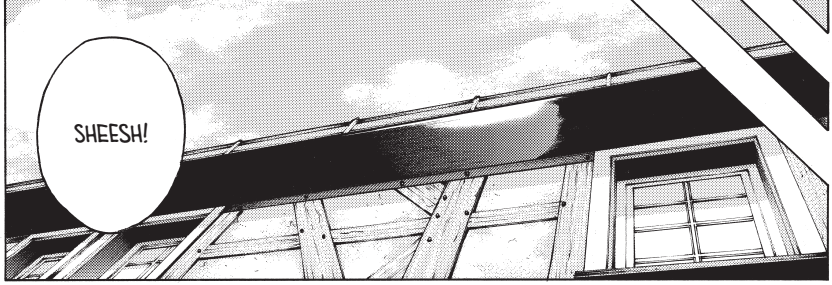
CAN YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT THIS DEVICE?!

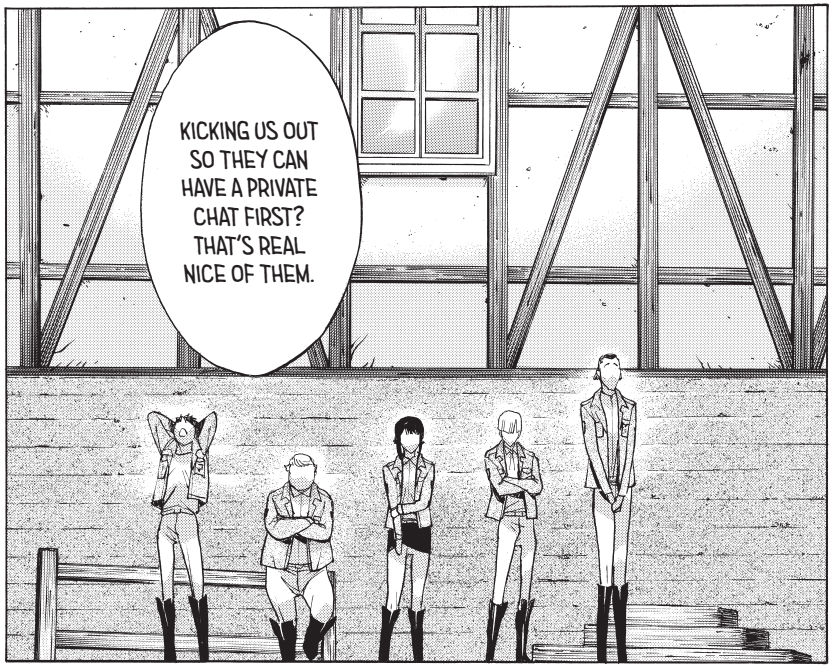
Y-YOU THINK I COULD LEARN HOW?

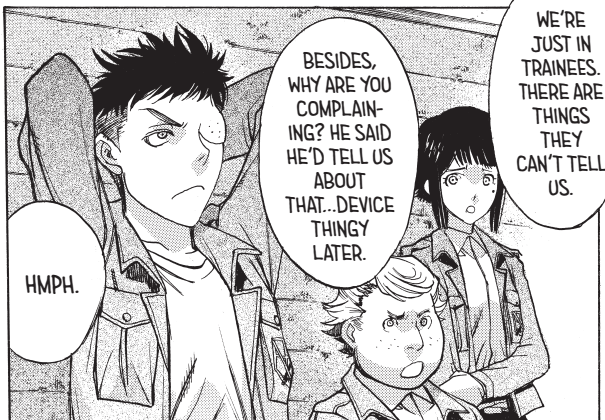
THIS IS WILD !!

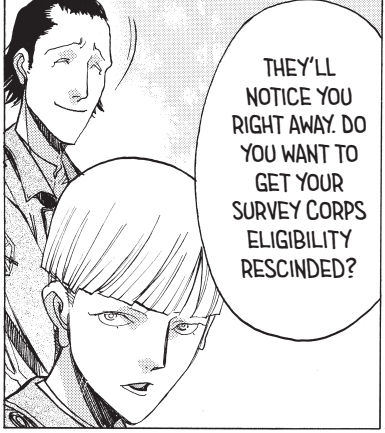
IF YOU'RE REALLY DEAD SET ON JOINING THE SURVEY CORPS, I CAN TELL YOU ALL ABOUT THE DEVICE AT A LATER TIME.

FIRST, LET'S GO INSIDE AND RELAX.


SHEESH!

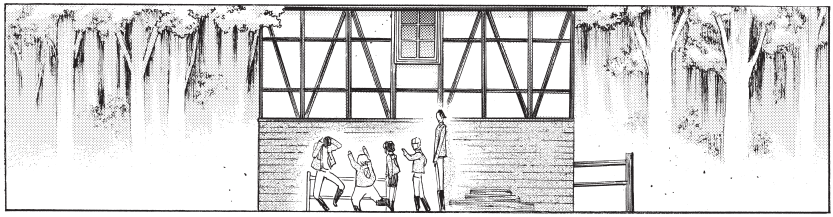

KICKING US OUT SO THEY CAN HAVE A PRIVATE CHAT FIRST? THAT'S REAL NICE OF THEM.

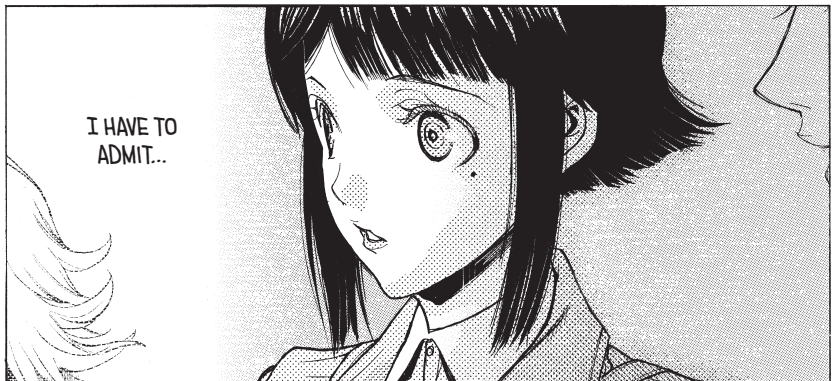

HMPH.
BESIDES, WHY ARE YOU COMPLAIN-ING? HE SAID HE'D TELL US ABOUT THAT...DEVICE THINGY LATER.
WE'RE JUST IN TRAINEES. THERE ARE THINGS THEY CAN'T TELL US.

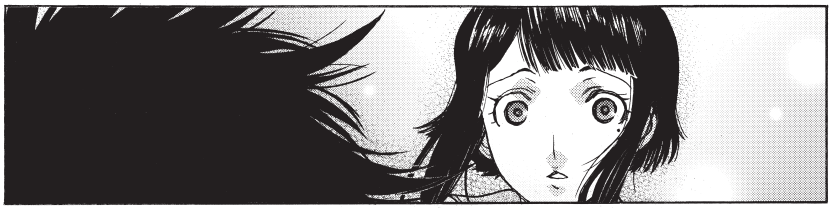

THEY'LL NOTICE YOU RIGHT AWAY. DO YOU WANT TO GET YOUR SURVEY CORPS ELIGIBILITY RESCINDED?

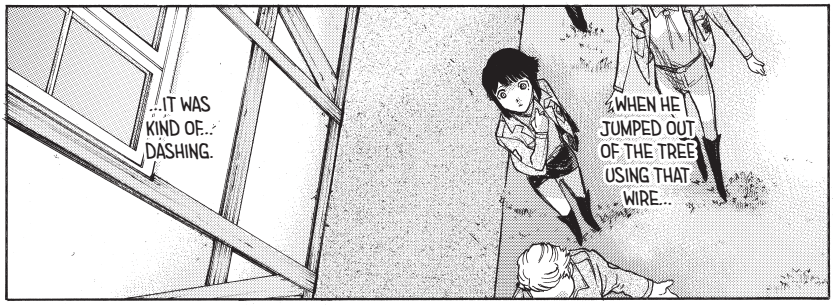
KNOCK IT OFF.
YOU SUPPOSE WE CAN EAVESDROP WITH AN EAR TO THE DOOR?

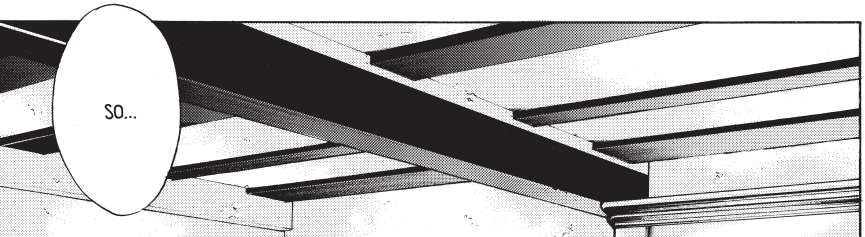
GEEZ, DON'T GET ALL BENT OUT OF SHAPE.
I'LL BE GOOD, I'LL BE GOOD!
SORRY, SORRY.
YEAH, KAI! I'D HATE YOU FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!



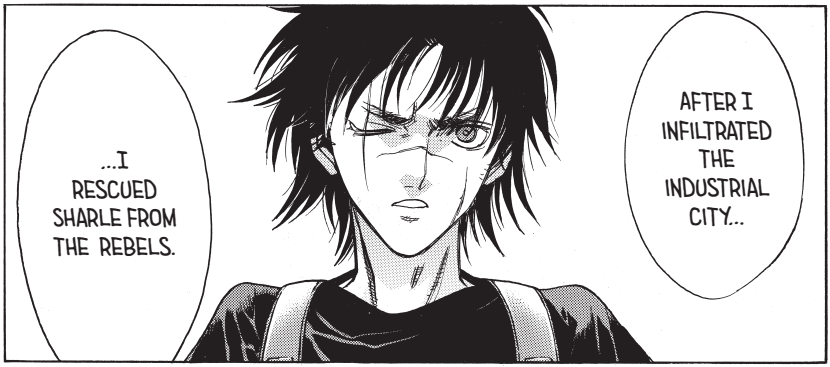

I HAVE TO ADMIT...

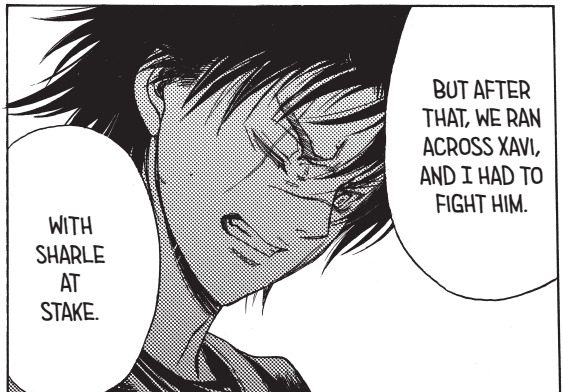



...IT WAS KIND OF... DASHING.
WHEN HE JUMPED OUT OF THE TREE USING THAT WIRE...


SO...

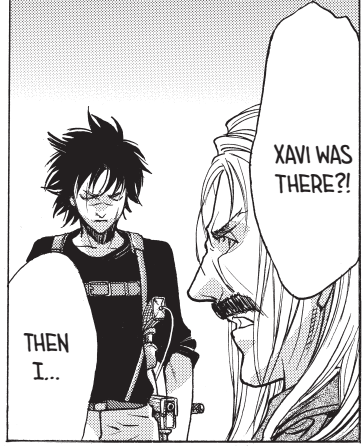
WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY?

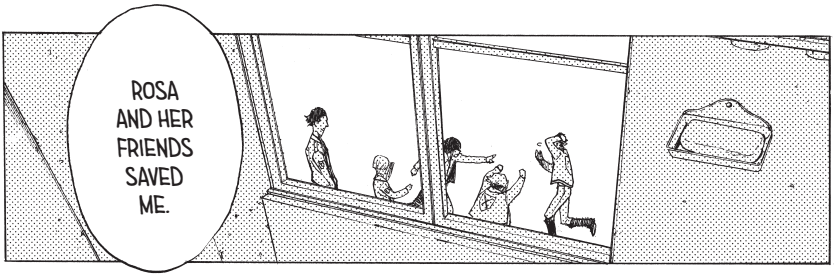

AFTER I INFILTRATED THE INDUSTRIAL CITY...
...I RESCUED SHARLE FROM THE REBELS.

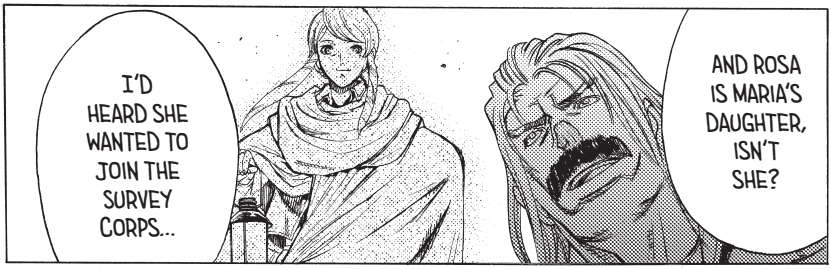

BUT AFTER THAT, WE RAN ACROSS XAVI, AND I HAD TO FIGHT HIM.
WITH SHARLE AT STAKE.

WELL DONE.

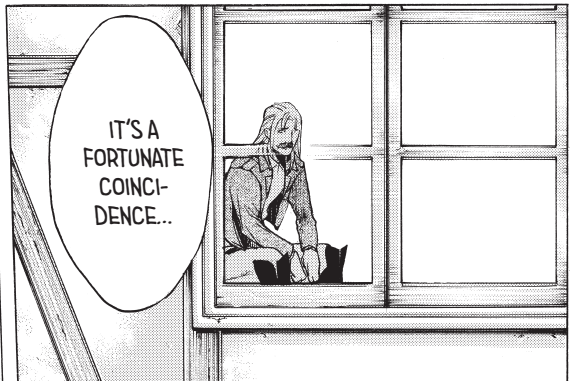
I LOST THE FIGHT, AND FELL INTO THE RIVER...
...AND WHEN I WOKE UP, I WAS IN THIS SHACK.


XAVI WAS THERE?!
THEN I...

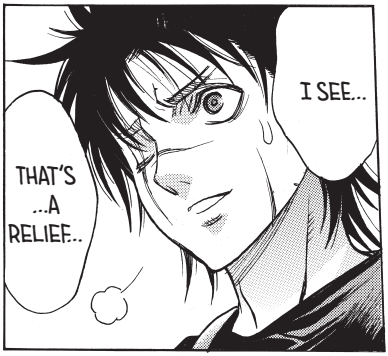

ROSA AND HER FRIENDS SAVED ME.

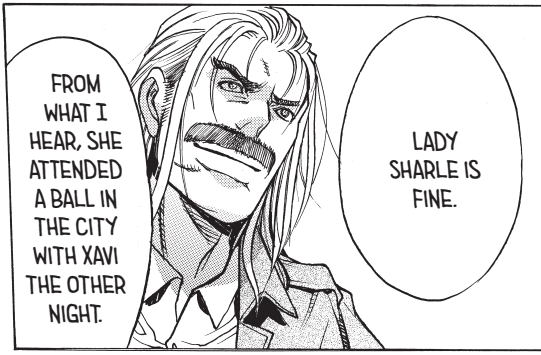

I'D HEARD SHE WANTED TO JOIN THE SURVEY CORPS...
AND ROSA IS MARIA'S DAUGHTER, ISN'T SHE?

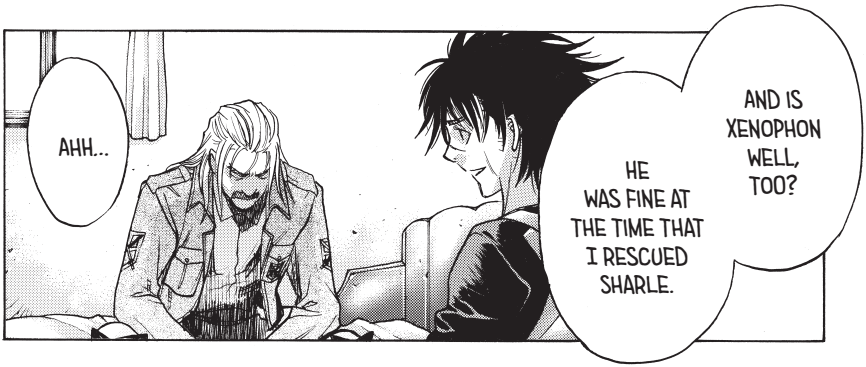
IN-STRUC-TOR...


IT'S A FORTUNATE COINCI-DENCE...

I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE THAT XAVI WOULD HURT HIS OWN SISTER, BUT...
DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S BECOME OF SHARLE?


I SEE...
THAT'S ...A RELIEF...


FROM WHAT I HEAR, SHE ATTENDED A BALL IN THE CITY WITH XAVI THE OTHER NIGHT.
LADY SHARLE IS FINE.


AHH...
HE WAS FINE AT THE TIME THAT I RESCUED SHARLE.
AND IS XENOPHON WELL, TOO?

THAT BRINGS ME TO THE TOPIC AT HAND.

!
WE'VE LOST ACCESS TO THE INDUSTRIAL CITY.
THAT IS WHY I MOVED UP MY SCHEDULE AND CAME TO THE ACADEMY EARLY.
MY GOOD FRIEND CAPTAIN DAFNER, THE LEADER OF THE MILITARY POLICE IN THE INDUSTRIAL CITY, WAS REMOVED FROM HIS POSITION FOR ALLOWING THE REBELLION TO HAPPEN.
VICE COMMANDER BERNHART HAS REPLACED THE PERSONNEL THERE WITH LOYAL SUBORDINATES, MAKING IT LIKELY THAT MY ACCESS WILL BE RESTRICTED.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

THAT MEANS WE DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH XENOPHON AND THE WORKERS THERE!

CORRECT.

BUT THE MOMENT YOU INFILTRATED THE CITY, THEY SUPPRESSED THE UPRISING.

I TRUST THAT CAPTAIN GLORIA BERNHART WILL RESTORE ORDER QUITE EASILY...

NO DOUBT THE FOREMAN IS SAFE AND WELL.

IT'S JUST FRUSTRATING THAT WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN OF IT...

...

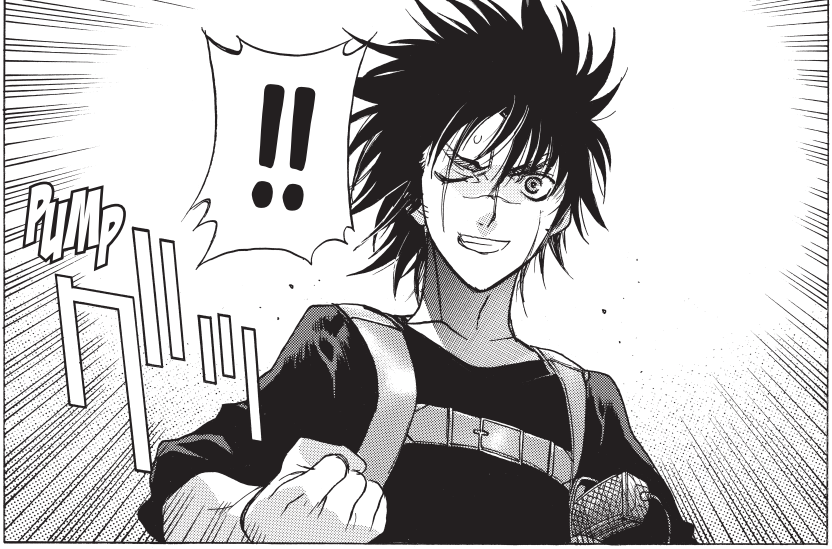
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT...

GIVEN ALL OF THESE CIRCUM-STANCES...

...THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UPDATED DEVICE HAS COME TO A HALT FOR THE TIME BEING.
!!
WHAT?!
DON'T WORRY.
IT'S NOT AS THOUGH I HAVE NO INROADS WITH THE BERNHART FACTION.

NOW...
I INTEND TO RESTORE MY CONNECTION TO THE INDUSTRIAL CITY AS SOON AS I CAN.
WE OUGHT TO LET THE OTHER YOUNGSTERS IN.
I BET THEY'RE OVER THEIR SHOCK, AND ARE DYING TO HEAR DETAILS ABOUT THE DEVICE.
...YOU WANT TO TELL THEM...ALL ABOUT THE DEVICE?
ARE YOU SURE...

...AND WE ARE PREPARING A PLAN TO EQUIP EVERY MEMBER OF THE SURVEY CORPS WITH OUR UPDATED DEVICE.
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'VE BEEN TALKING WITH CARLO...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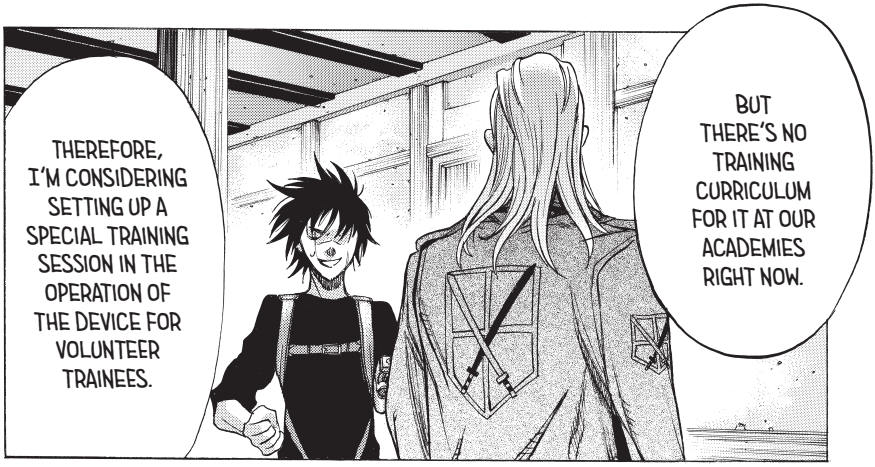
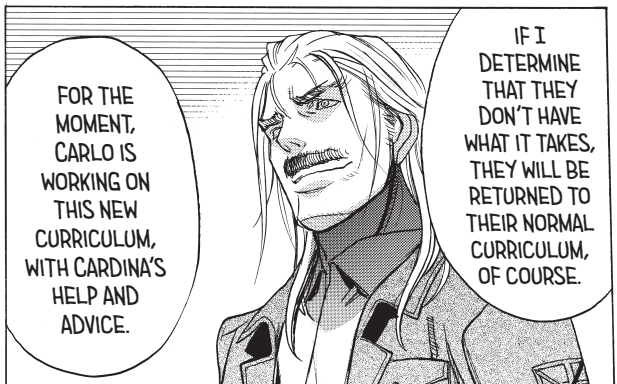
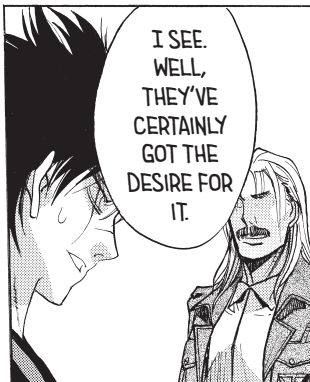
PUMP

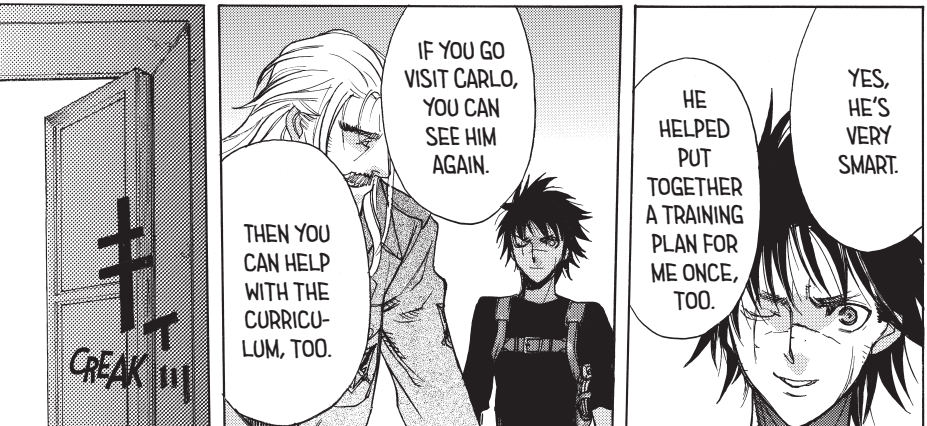

THEREFORE, I'M CONSIDERING SETTING UP A SPECIAL TRAINING SESSION IN THE OPERATION OF THE DEVICE FOR VOLUNTEER TRAINEES.
BUT THERE'S NO TRAINING CURRICULUM FOR IT AT OUR ACADEMIES RIGHT NOW.


FOR THE MOMENT, CARLO IS WORKING ON THIS NEW CURRICULUM, WITH CARDINA'S HELP AND ADVICE.
IF I DETERMINE THAT THEY DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES, THEY WILL BE RETURNED TO THEIR NORMAL CURRICULUM, OF COURSE.

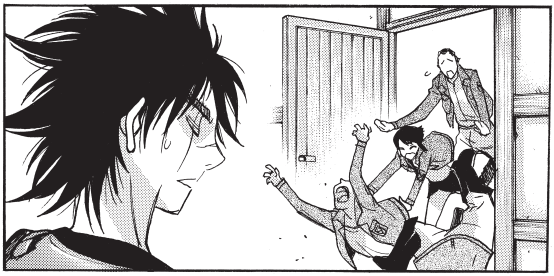

I SEE. WELL, THEY'VE CERTAINLY GOT THE DESIRE FOR IT.

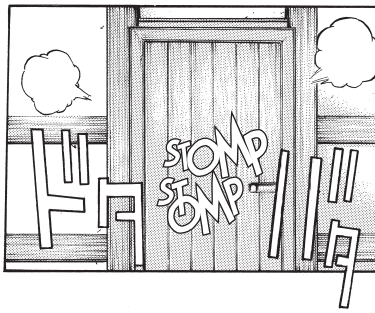
HEH! HE WANTED TO HELP LOOK FOR YOU, HE REALLY DID.
CARDINA?!

TAKE ME WITH YOU!
INSTEAD, I SUGGESTED THAT HE WORK FOR CARLO AS AN ADVISOR, AND IT TURNS OUT HE'S GOT A PRETTY GOOD HEAD ON HIS SHOULDERS.
HE CAN'T GO RUNNING AROUND IN THE OPEN.
BUT LIKE YOU, HE'S OFFICIALLY DEAD ON PAPER.


CREAK
IF YOU GO VISIT CARLO, YOU CAN SEE HIM AGAIN.
THEN YOU CAN HELP WITH THE CURRICU-LUM, TOO.
HE HELPED PUT TOGETHER A TRAINING PLAN FOR ME ONCE, TOO.
YES, HE'S VERY SMART.

WE'RE READY NOW. COME ON IN.

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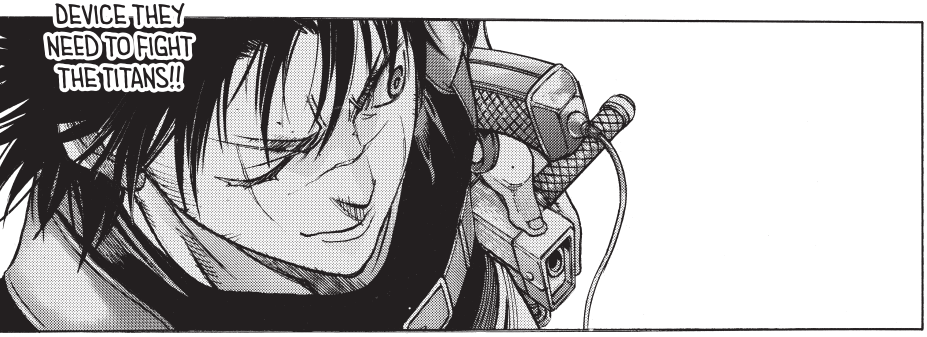
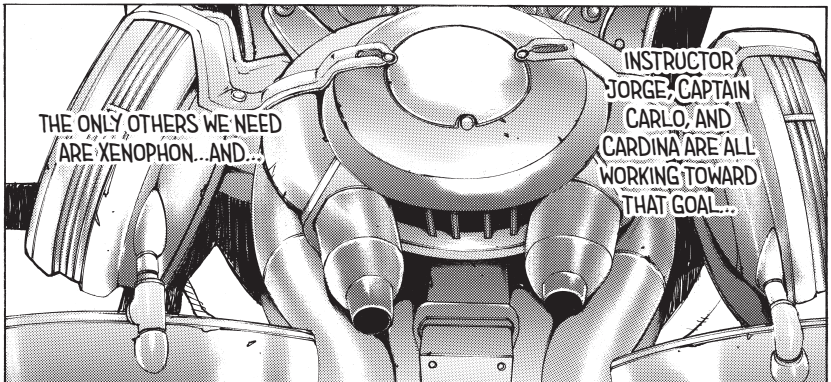
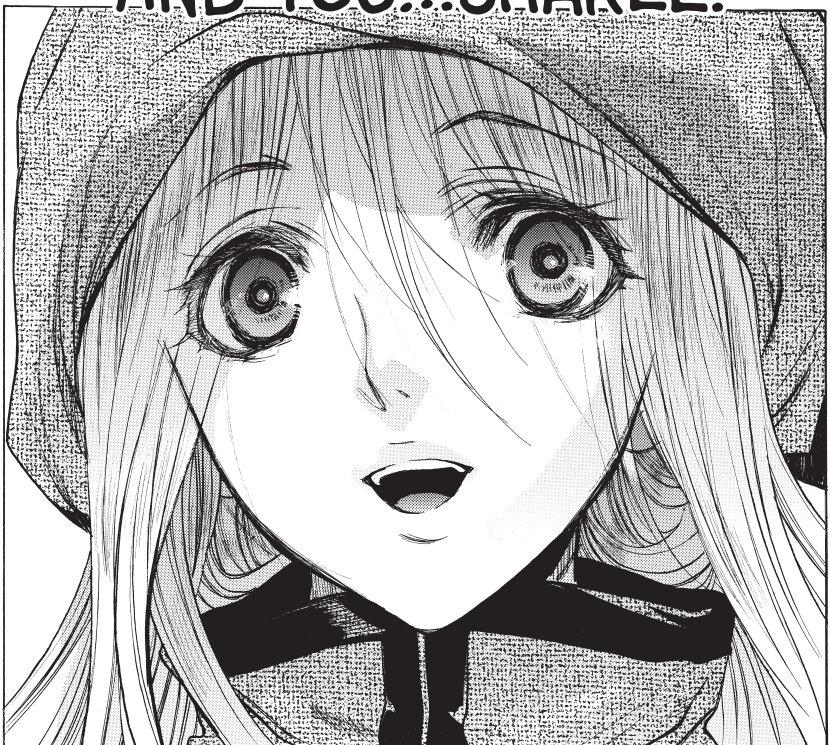
NOW THE REBUILDING OF THE SURVEY CORPS WILL **TRULY** BEGIN...

A NEW SURVEY CORPS, OUTFITTED WITH THE UPDATED DEVICE THEY NEED TO FIGHT THE TITANS!!





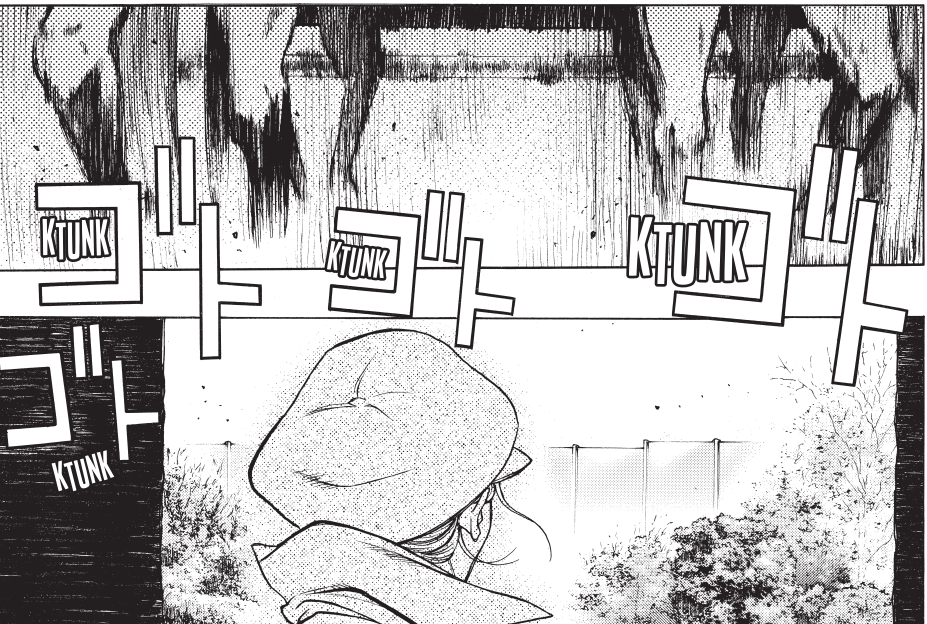
AND YOU...SHARLE.



Chapter 41: Cornerstone of the Corps · End

ATTACK ON TITAN

BEFORE THE FALL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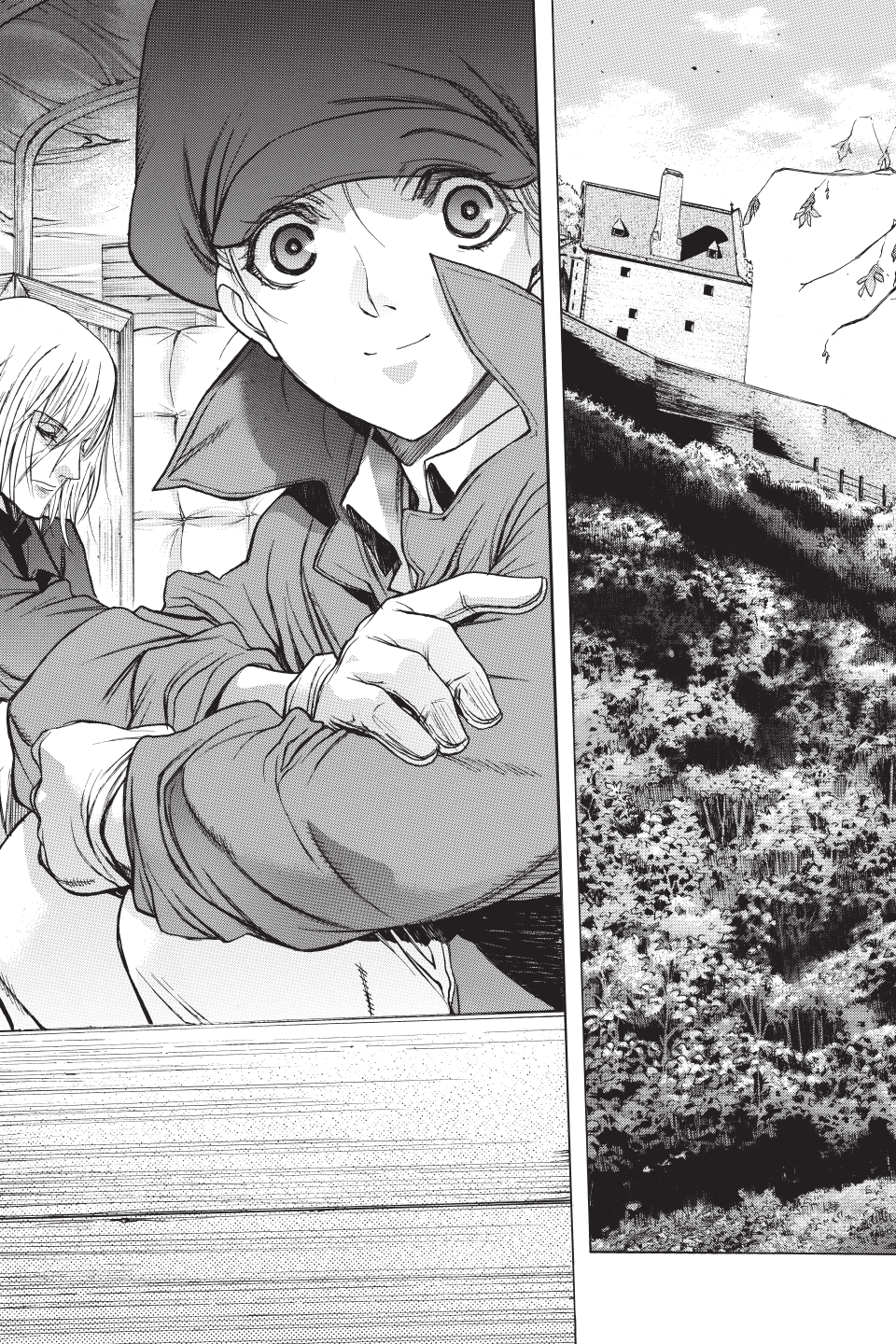
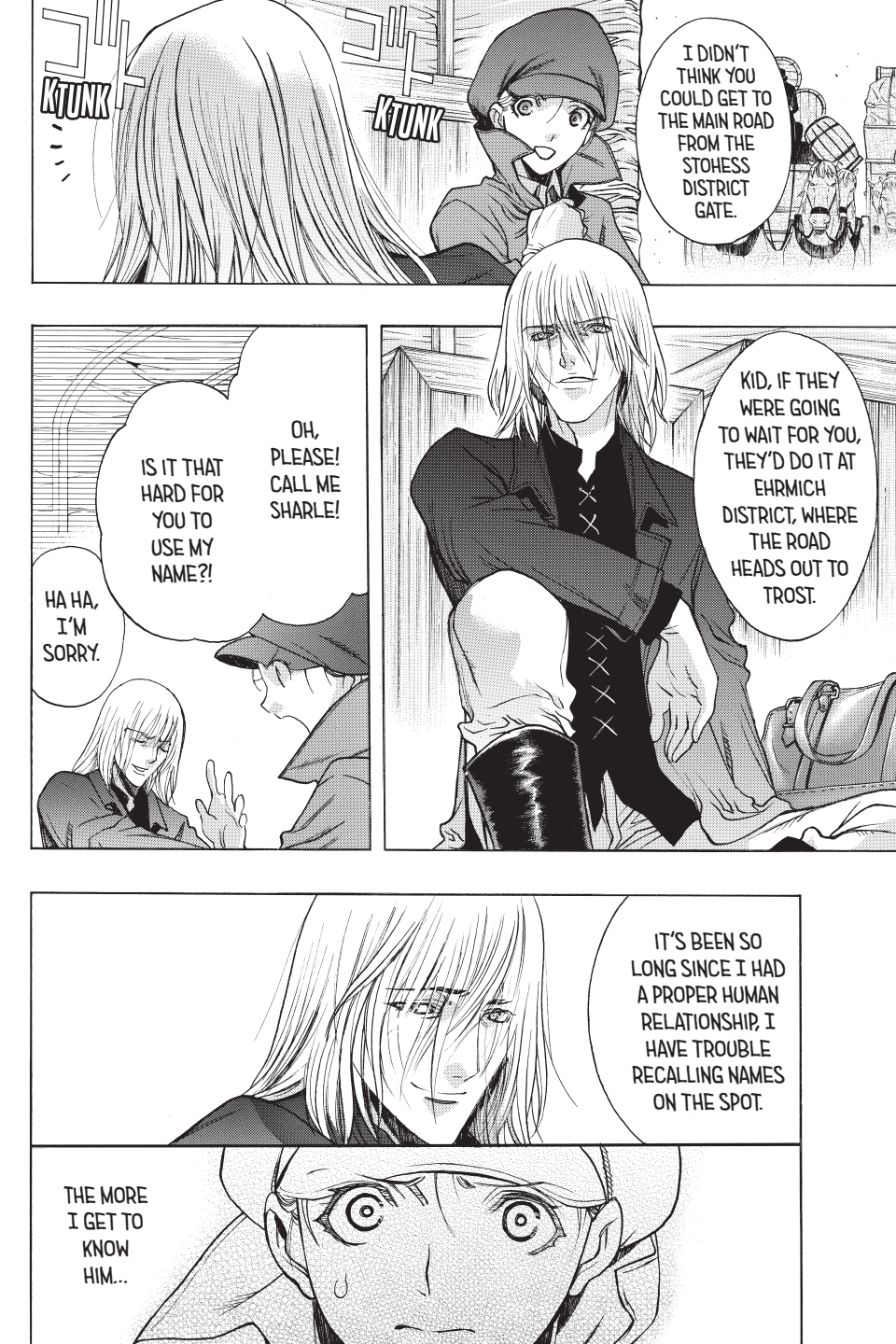
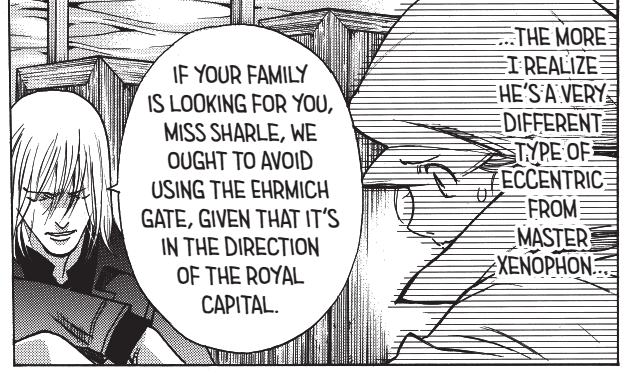
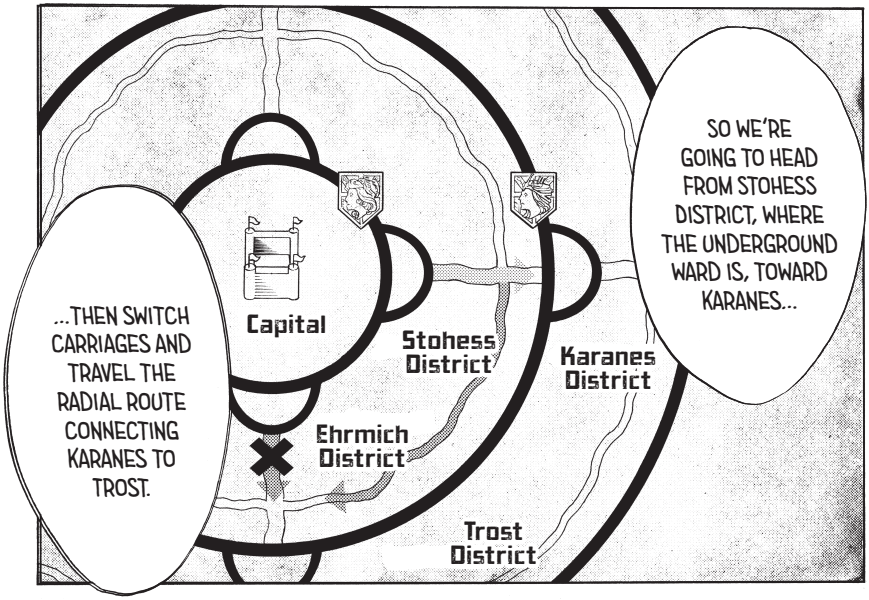
Chapter 42: Traveling Skies

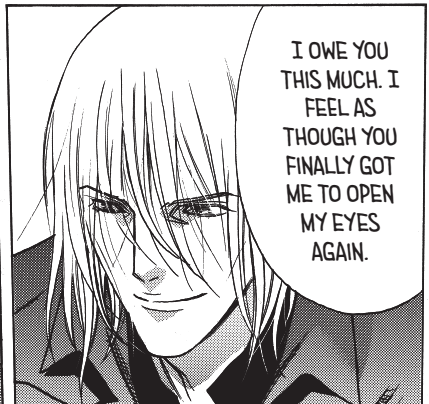



KTUNK
KTUNK
I DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD GET TO THE MAIN ROAD FROM THE STOHESS DISTRICT GATE.
KID, IF THEY WERE GOING TO WAIT FOR YOU, THEY'D DO IT AT EHRMICH DISTRICT, WHERE THE ROAD HEADS OUT TO TROST.
OH, PLEASE! CALL ME SHARLE!
IS IT THAT HARD FOR YOU TO USE MY NAME?!
HA HA, I'M SORRY.
IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I HAD A PROPER HUMAN RELATIONSHIP, I HAVE TROUBLE RECALLING NAMES ON THE SPOT.
THE MORE I GET TO KNOW HIM...

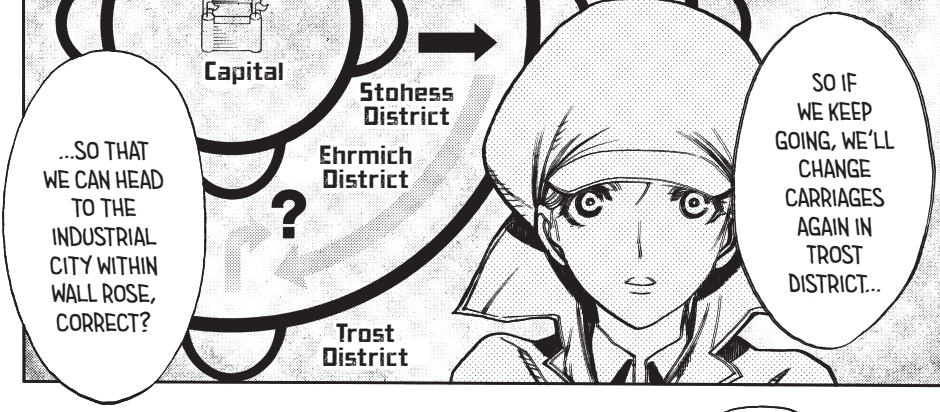
HUH?! OH... RIGHT!
I AGREE.
?

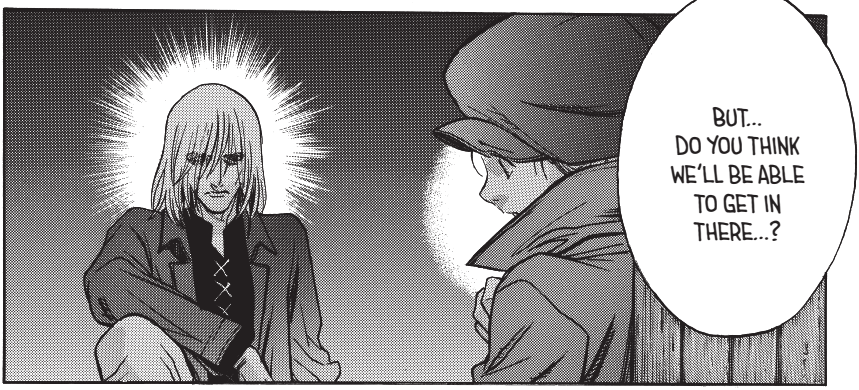

IF YOUR FAMILY IS LOOKING FOR YOU, MISS SHARLE, WE OUGHT TO AVOID USING THE EHRMICH GATE, GIVEN THAT IT'S IN THE DIRECTION OF THE ROYAL CAPITAL.
...THE MORE I REALIZE HE'S A VERY DIFFERENT TYPE OF ECCENTRIC FROM MASTER XENOPHON...

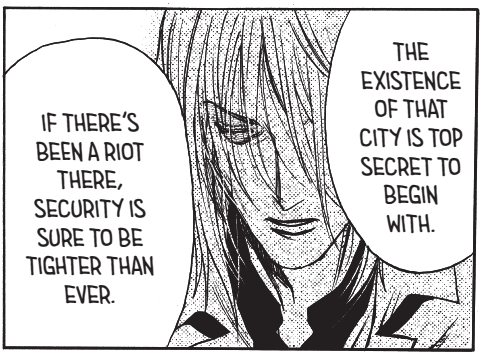

SO WE'RE GOING TO HEAD FROM STOHESS DISTRICT, WHERE THE UNDERGROUND WARD IS, TOWARD KARANES...
...THEN SWITCH CARRIAGES AND TRAVEL THE RADIAL ROUTE CONNECTING KARANES TO TROST.
Capital
Stohess District
Karanes District
Ehrmich District
Trost District

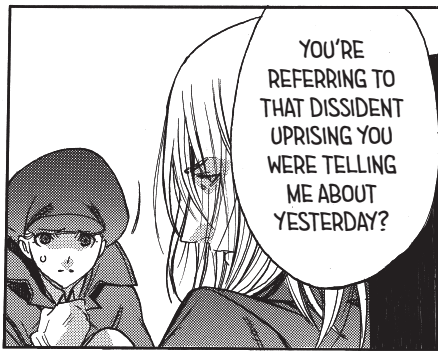

I OWE YOU THIS MUCH. I FEEL AS THOUGH YOU FINALLY GOT ME TO OPEN MY EYES AGAIN.

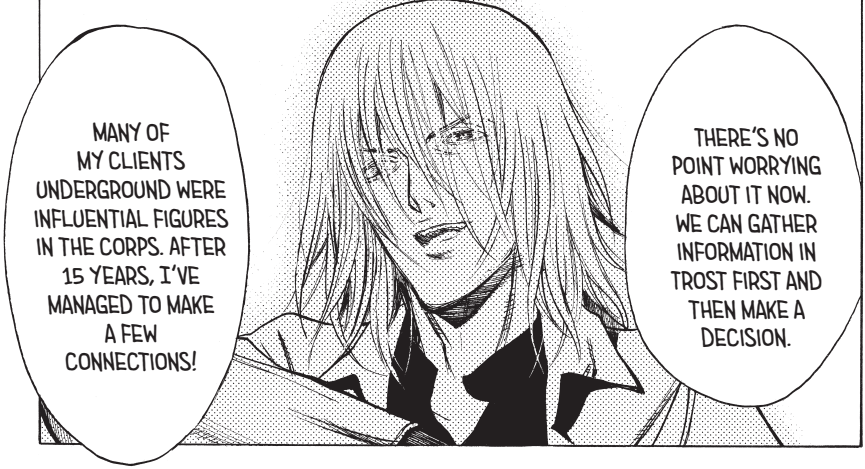
THAT'S QUITE THE DETOUR, I KNOW. THANK YOU FOR DOING THIS FOR ME.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
KTUNK
KTUNK

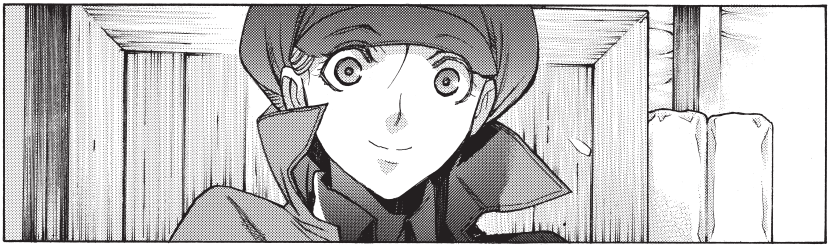

Capital
Stohess District
Ehrmich District
?
Trost District
...SO THAT WE CAN HEAD TO THE INDUSTRIAL CITY WITHIN WALL ROSE, CORRECT?
SO IF WE KEEP GOING, WE'LL CHANGE CARRIAGES AGAIN IN TROST DISTRICT...

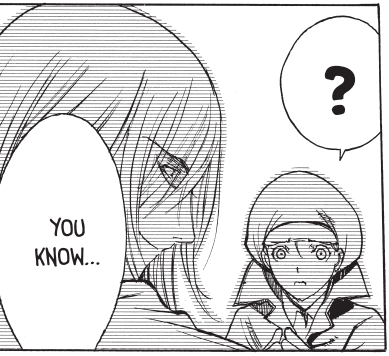

BUT... DO YOU THINK WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET IN THERE...?


IF THERE'S BEEN A RIOT THERE, SECURITY IS SURE TO BE TIGHTER THAN EVER.
THE EXISTENCE OF THAT CITY IS TOP SECRET TO BEGIN WITH.


YOU'RE REFERRING TO THAT DISSIDENT UPRISING YOU WERE TELLING ME ABOUT YESTERDAY?


MANY OF MY CLIENTS UNDERGROUND WERE INFLUENTIAL FIGURES IN THE CORPS. AFTER 15 YEARS, I'VE MANAGED TO MAKE A FEW CONNECTIONS!
THERE'S NO POINT WORRYING ABOUT IT NOW. WE CAN GATHER INFORMATION IN TROST FIRST AND THEN MAKE A DECISION.

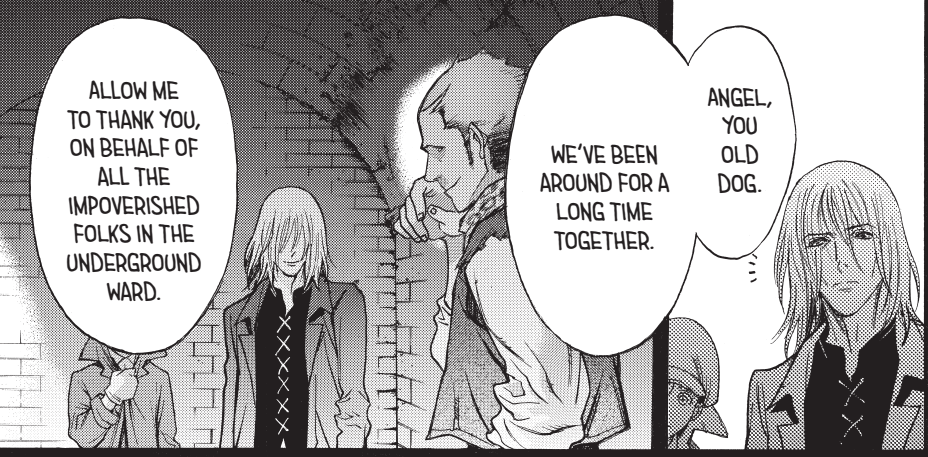



?
YOU KNOW...

HEH HEH!
SPEAKING OF THE UNDER-GROUND... I REALLY OWE KLARISSA AND LEO A LOT, TOO.

...BUT I'LL ADMIT, I WAS SURPRISED AT THE LENGTHS THEY WENT TO HELP YOU.
THEY'RE PRETTY RECOGNIZABLE FIGURES DOWN THERE, AND THEY PUT UP A TOUGH FACADE...

MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT HOW STRAIGHTFORWARD YOU ARE THAT ATTRACTS PEOPLE WITH A DARK SIDE.
AND I INCLUDE MYSELF IN THAT NUMBER...

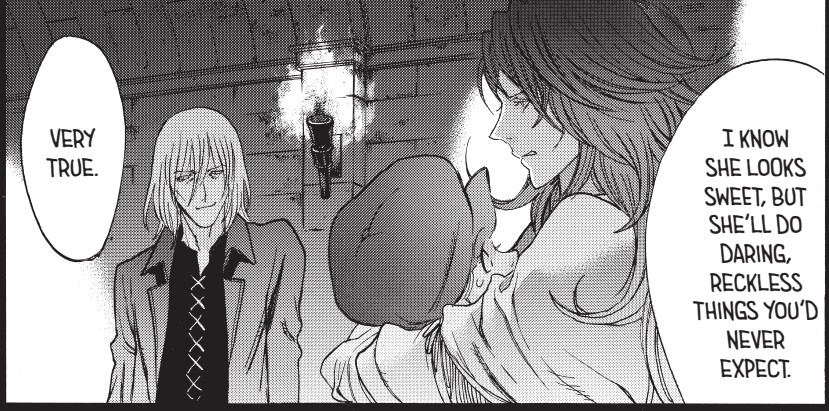

ALLOW ME TO THANK YOU, ON BEHALF OF ALL THE IMPOVERISHED FOLKS IN THE UNDERGROUND WARD.
WE'VE BEEN AROUND FOR A LONG TIME TOGETHER.
ANGEL, YOU OLD DOG.

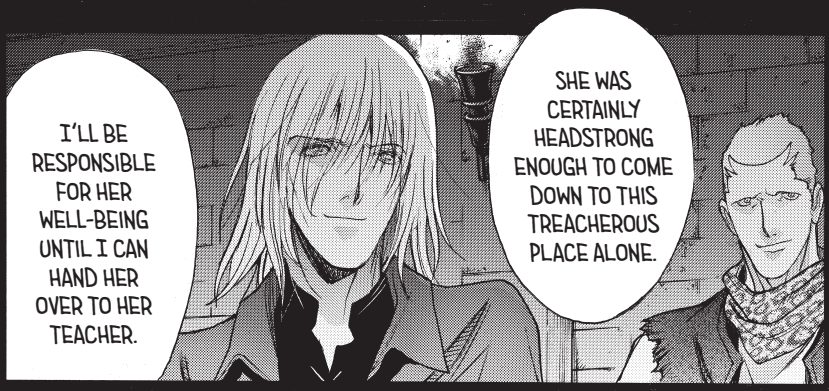
ONCE I FINISH WORKING ON THIS NEW WEAPON, I INTEND TO COME BACK HERE.
WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THIS IS GOODBYE FOREVER, LEO?

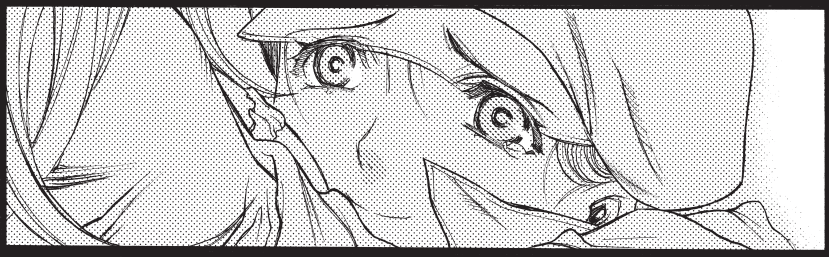
SO YOU'RE COMING BACK.
OH... YEAH? OKAY...

MY WORKSHOP IS HERE, AND I HAVE CUSTOMERS WHO RELY ON ME.
HUH ...?

SHARLE!
AAH!
GOT-CHA ...
TAKE CARE, OKAY ?!!
DON'T YOU DARE GET STUCK WITH SOME STUPID BRUTE OF A MAN!!
GLARE キッ
ANGEL! I'M TRUSTING YOU WITH HER, GOT THAT?
UH...
HA HA HA...

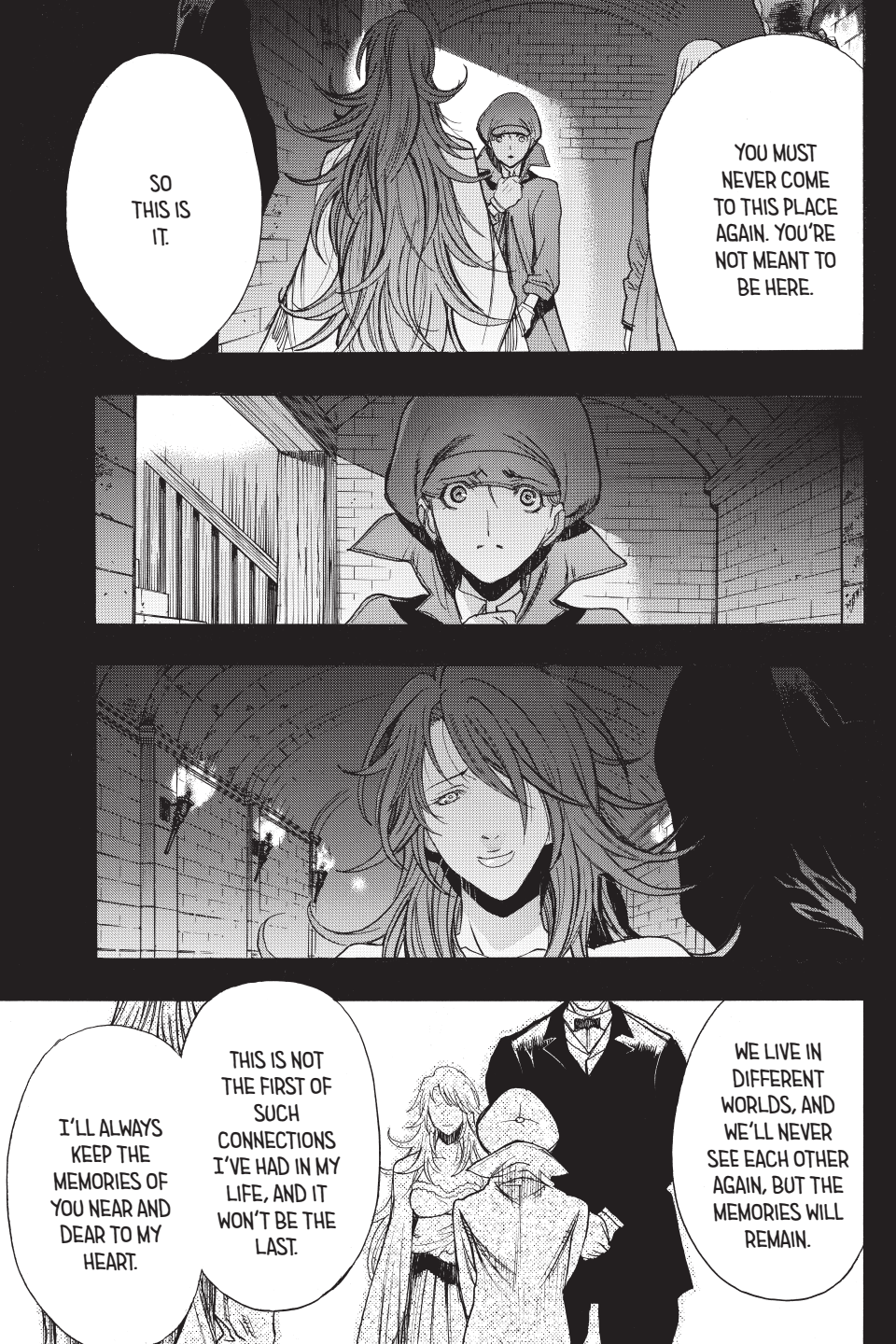

VERY TRUE.
I KNOW SHE LOOKS SWEET, BUT SHE'LL DO DARING, RECKLESS THINGS YOU'D NEVER EXPECT.

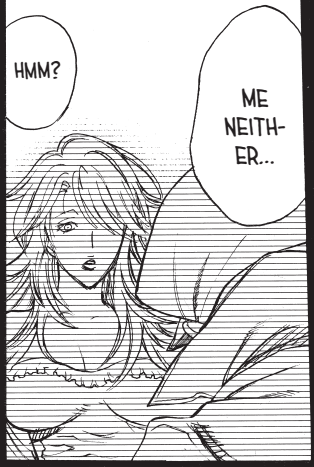

I'LL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HER WELL-BEING UNTIL I CAN HAND HER OVER TO HER TEACHER.
SHE WAS CERTAINLY HEADSTRONG ENOUGH TO COME DOWN TO THIS TREACHEROUS PLACE ALONE.



KLARISSA, LEO...THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.

I'LL COME VISIT YOU AGAIN WHEN THINGS HAVE SETTLED DOWN.
DON'T.
HUH ...?


SO THIS IS IT.
YOU MUST NEVER COME TO THIS PLACE AGAIN. YOU'RE NOT MEANT TO BE HERE.
I'LL ALWAYS KEEP THE MEMORIES OF YOU NEAR AND DEAR TO MY HEART.
THIS IS NOT THE FIRST OF SUCH CONNECTIONS I'VE HAD IN MY LIFE, AND IT WON'T BE THE LAST.
WE LIVE IN DIFFERENT WORLDS, AND WE'LL NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN, BUT THE MEMORIES WILL REMAIN.

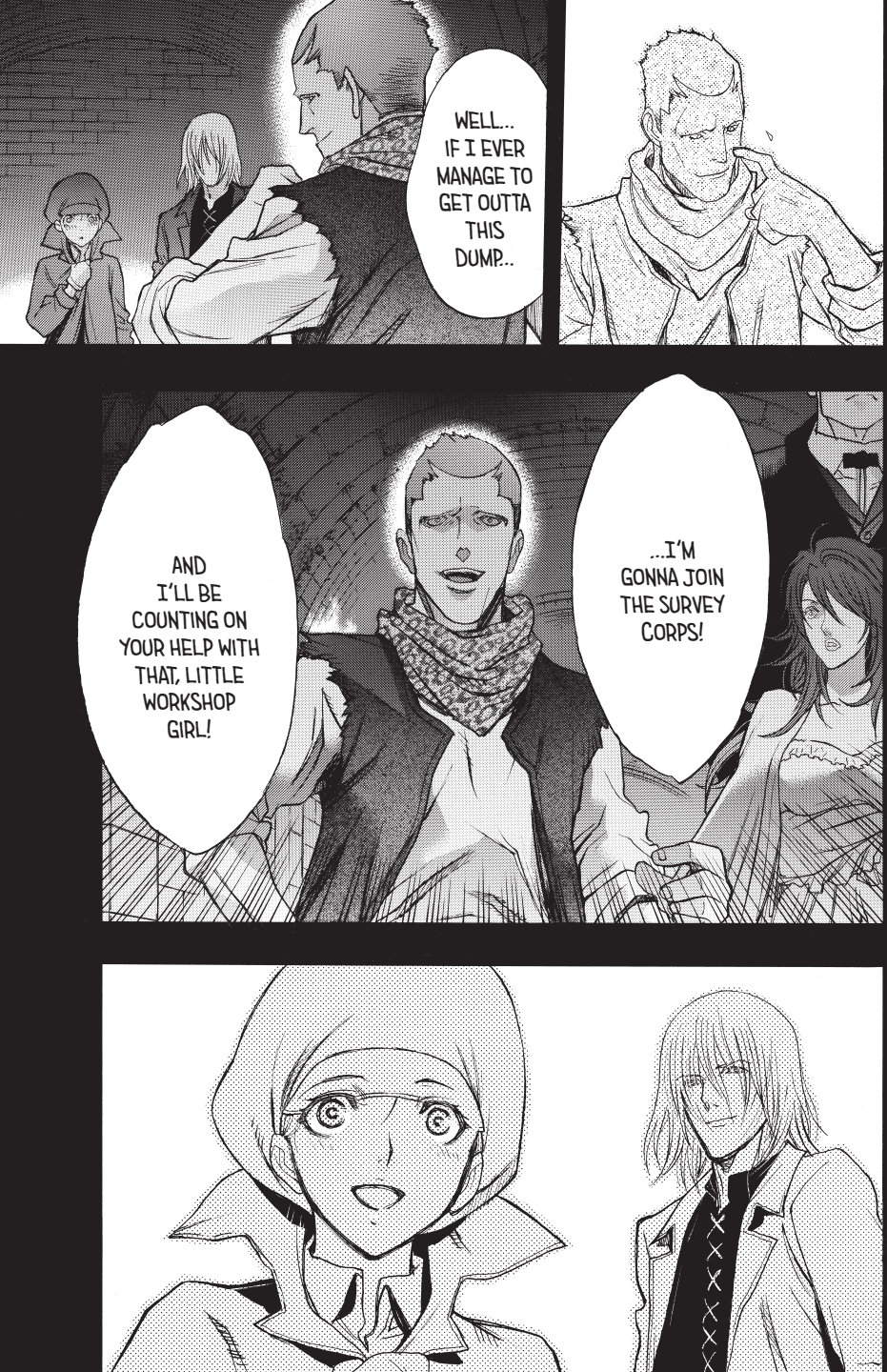

HMM?
ME NEITHER...

NO COMMENTS FROM THE PEANUT GALLERY WHILE I'M SHARING A TENDER MOMENT!
I NEVER DREAMED I'D HEAR KLARISSA SAY SOMETHING SO SAPPY WITH A STRAIGHT FACE...

WHEN I WAS STAYING OVER LAST NIGHT, IT MADE ME WONDER IF THAT WAS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE A BIG SISTER... IT WAS WONDERFUL.
I WON'T FORGET ABOUT YOU EITHER, KLARISSA! NEVER!!

TAKE CARE, LEO.
I WILL!

B-BIG... SISTER...?


WELL... IF I EVER MANAGE TO GET OUTTA THIS DUMP...
AND I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOUR HELP WITH THAT, LITTLE WORKSHOP GIRL!
...I'M GONNA JOIN THE SURVEY CORPS!

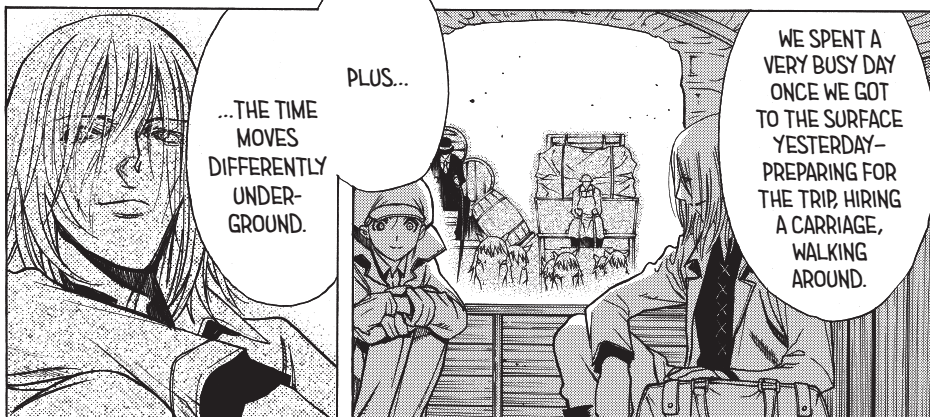
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S ONLY BEEN ONE DAY SINCE WE SAID GOOD-BYE TO THEM.

Capital

Stohess District

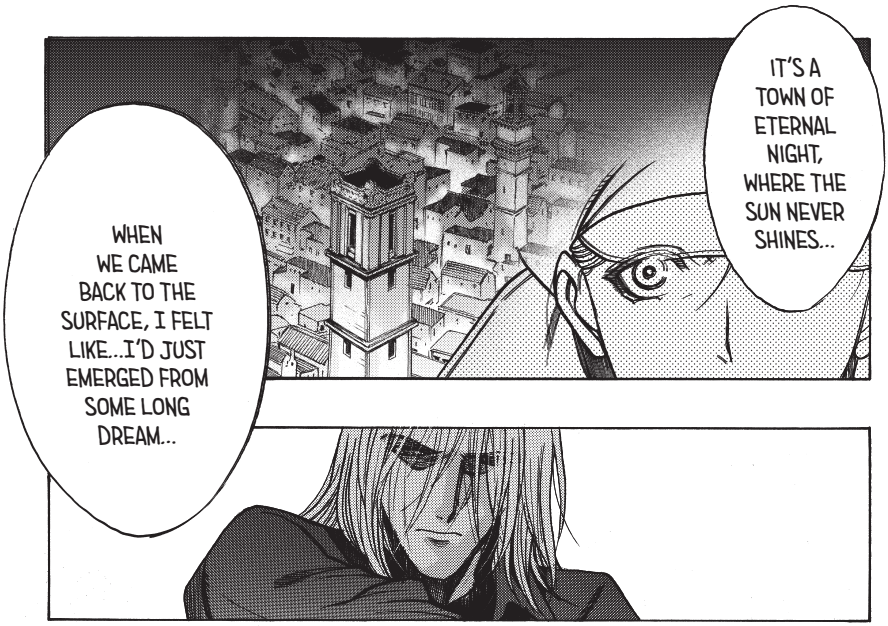
Karanes District

Ehrmich District



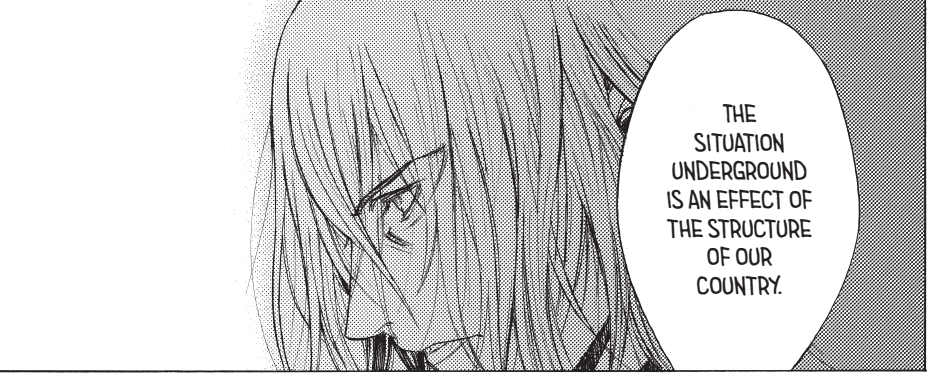
YOU'RE RIGHT...

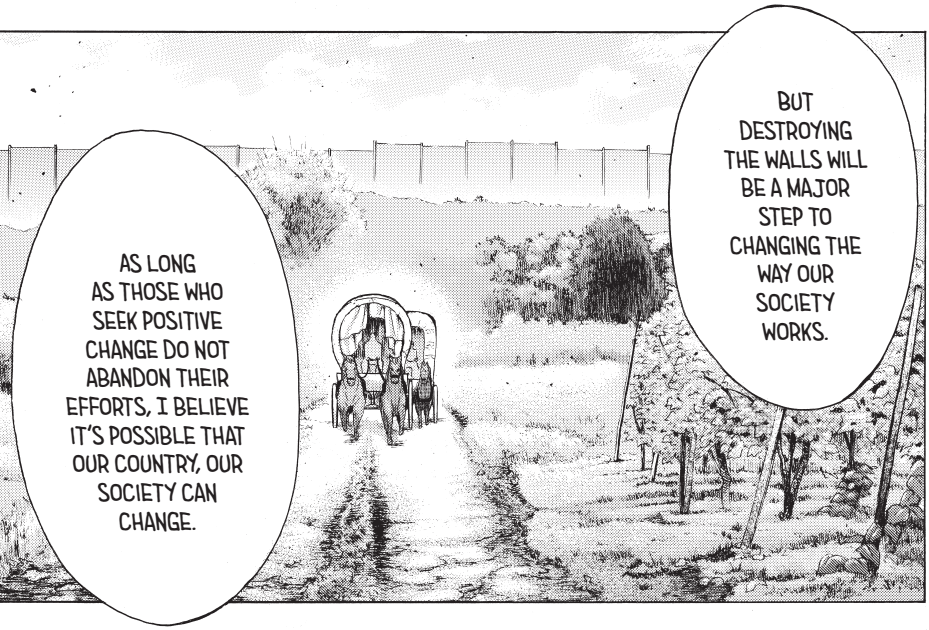
DON'T YOU FEEL THAT WAY?

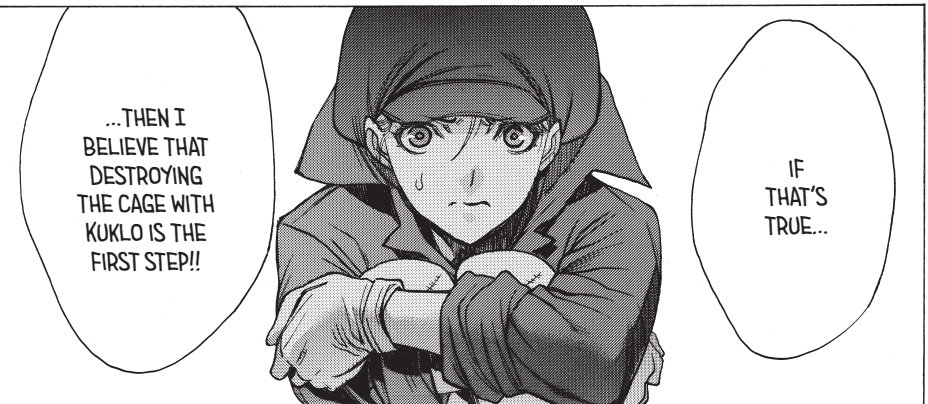

IT'S A TOWN OF ETERNAL NIGHT, WHERE THE SUN NEVER SHINES...
WHEN WE CAME BACK TO THE SURFACE, I FELT LIKE...I'D JUST EMERGED FROM SOME LONG DREAM...

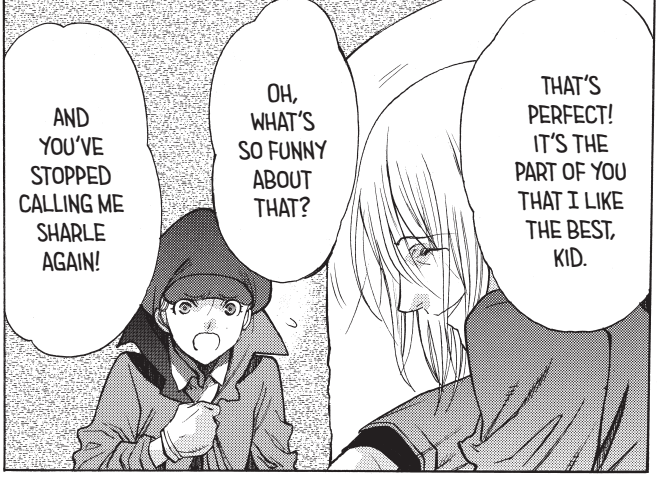
BUT TO THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE DOWN THERE, THAT'S JUST THE NATURAL WAY OF THINGS.

WELL, IN EITHER CASE, IT'S A CLEVER WAY OF PUTTING IT, BUT...
OR ARE YOU REFERRING TO THE CONDITION OF HUMANITY ITSELF, TRAPPED BEHIND THEM DUE TO THE THREAT OF THE TITANS?
MEANING THE WALLS?
THE "CAGE" ...
KTUNK
KTUNK
IF WE BREAK THE "CAGE," DO YOU SUPPOSE OUR REALITY AND THE UNDER-GROUND WARD'S REALITY WILL OVERLAP AGAIN?
HMMM...
HANG ON.
NO ...!
...I DON'T THINK BREAKING THE CAGE WILL HAVE MUCH OF AN IMMEDIATE EFFECT.
SPEAKING AS A PERSON WHO LIVED DOWN THERE FOR MANY YEARS...

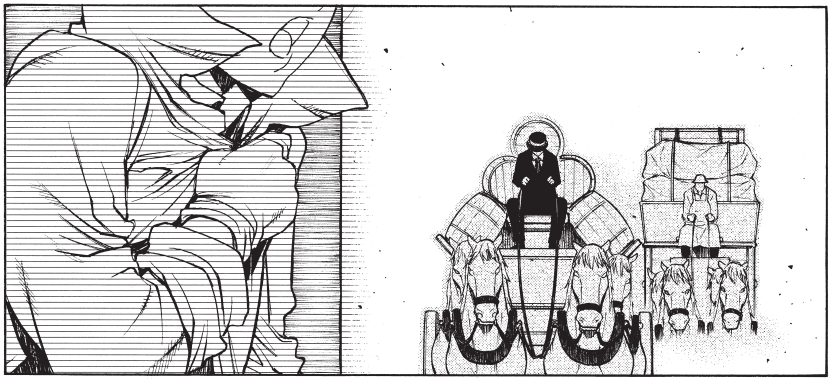

THE SITUATION UNDERGROUND IS AN EFFECT OF THE STRUCTURE OF OUR COUNTRY.

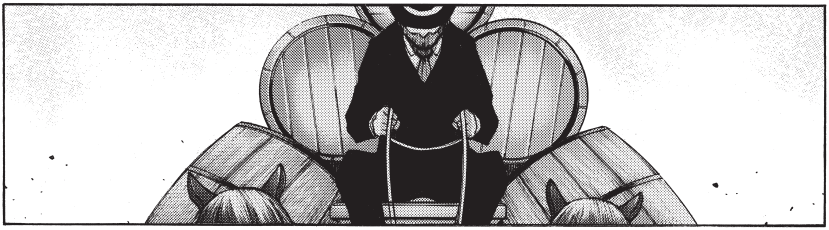

BUT DESTROYING THE WALLS WILL BE A MAJOR STEP TO CHANGING THE WAY OUR SOCIETY WORKS.
AS LONG AS THOSE WHO SEEK POSITIVE CHANGE DO NOT ABANDON THEIR EFFORTS, I BELIEVE IT'S POSSIBLE THAT OUR COUNTRY, OUR SOCIETY CAN CHANGE.

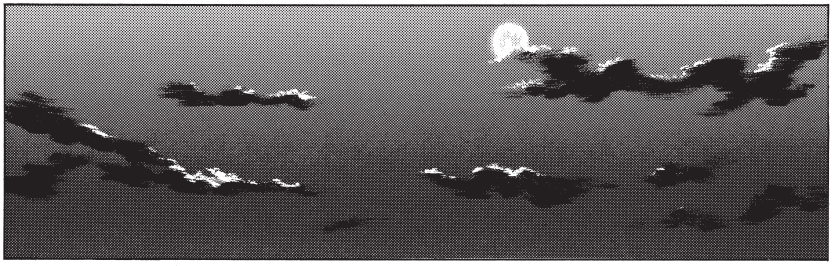

IF THAT'S TRUE...
...THEN I BELIEVE THAT DESTROYING THE CAGE WITH KUKLO IS THE FIRST STEP!!

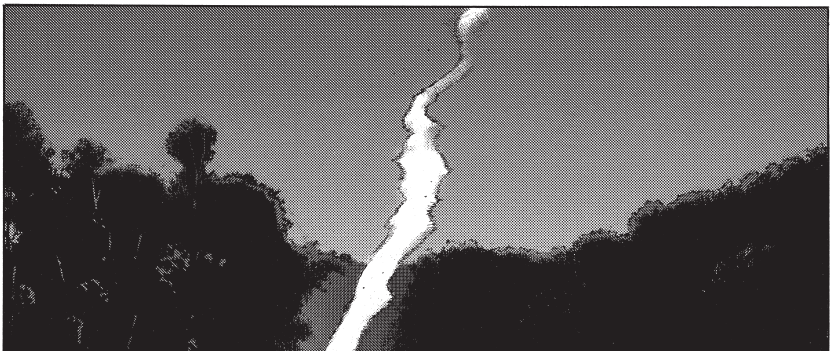

AND YOU'VE STOPPED CALLING ME SHARLE AGAIN!
OH, WHAT'S SO FUNNY ABOUT THAT?
THAT'S PERFECT! IT'S THE PART OF YOU THAT I LIKE THE BEST, KID.

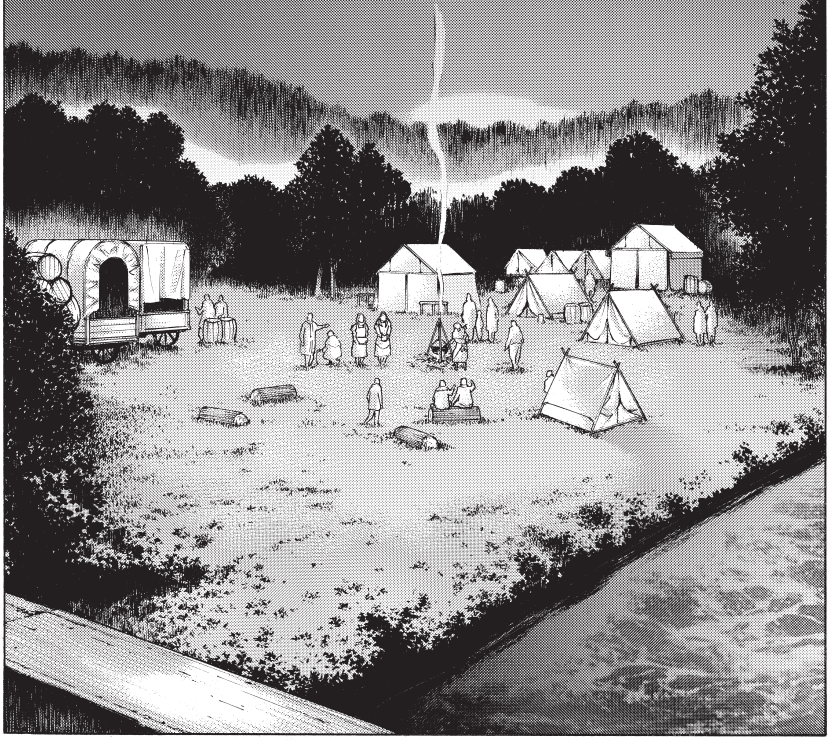
HEH HEH...

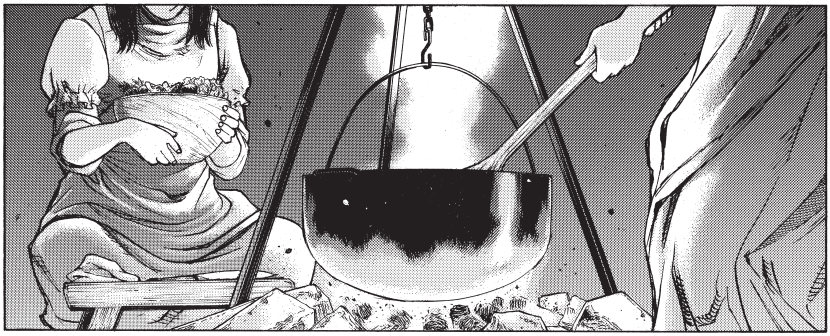


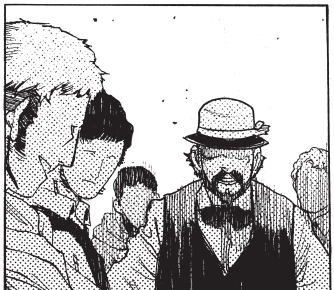






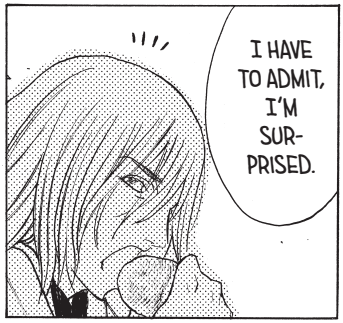


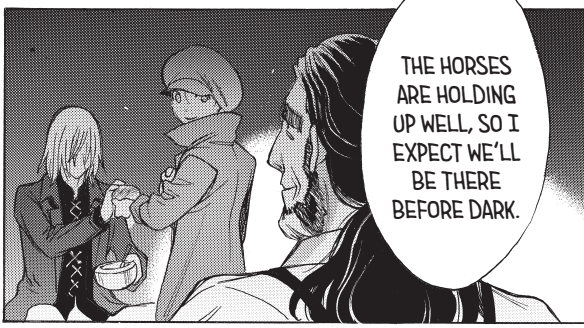


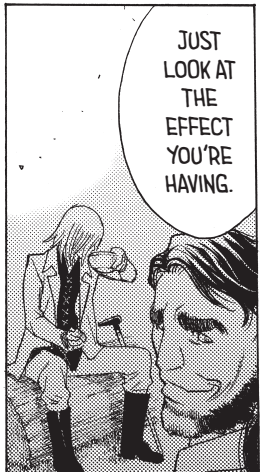


I'M SORRY THAT THIS IS ALL WE'VE GOT FOR YA, LAD.
BOW
ペコ
IF WE HAD FASTER HORSES, YOU COULD BE IN KARANES IN A DAY, RATHER THAN CAMPING OUT HERE.
I APOLOGIZE FOR THE ARRANGE-MENTS, ANGEL.

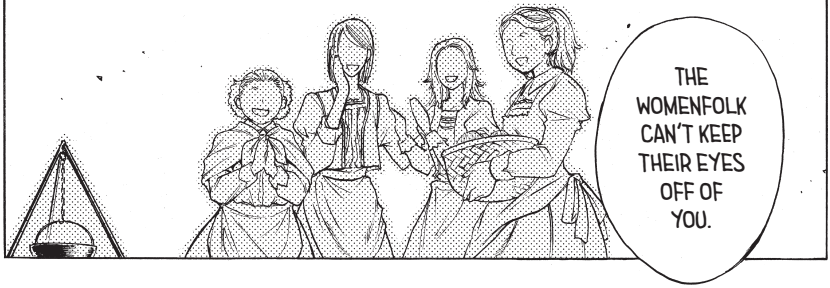
THAT'S THE PLAN.
BUT THAT'S TYPICAL FOR A CARGO WAGON.
I'M THE ONE WHO BEGGED YOU TO LET ME COME WITH YOU. I'M GRATEFUL TO HAVE THIS MUCH.
WE SHOULD BE ARRIVING TOMORROW EVENING, YES?

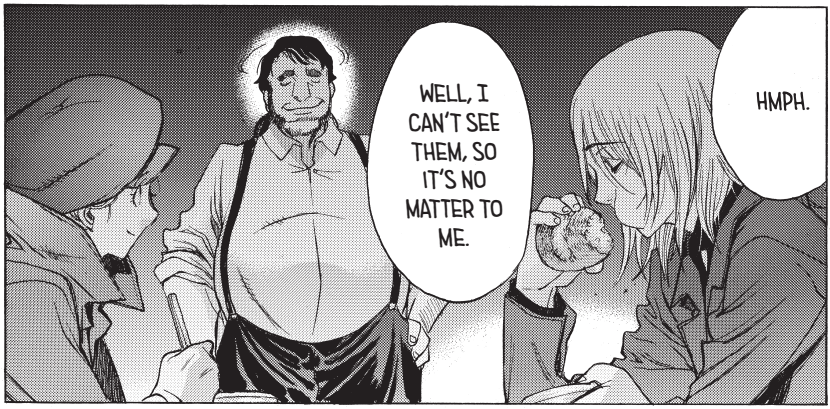

I HAVE TO ADMIT, I'M SUR-PRISED.

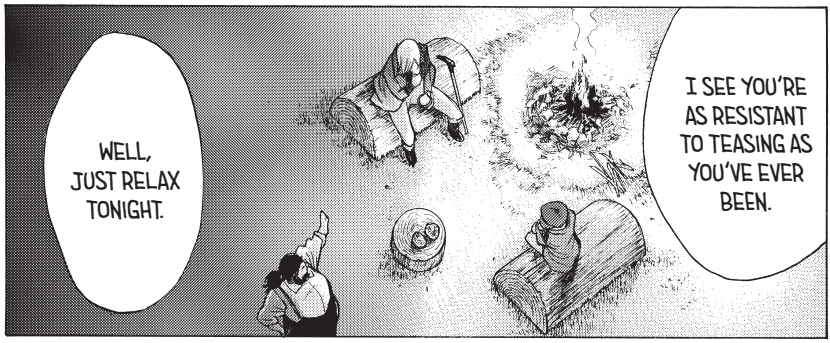

THE HORSES ARE HOLDING UP WELL, SO I EXPECT WE'LL BE THERE BEFORE DARK.


JUST LOOK AT THE EFFECT YOU'RE HAVING.

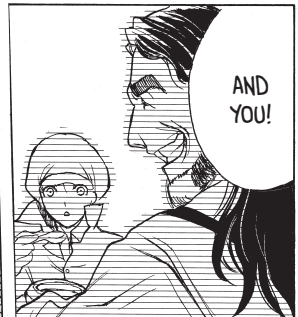
I NEVER REALIZED YOU WERE SUCH A HANDSOME MAN UNDER-NEATH ALL THAT HAIR!

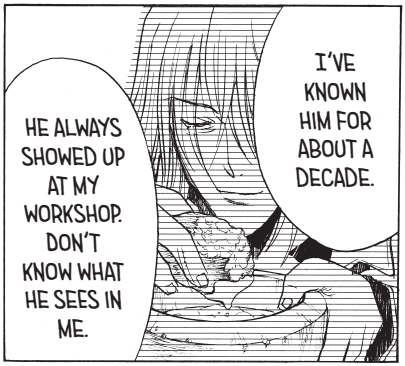

THE WOMENFOLK CAN'T KEEP THEIR EYES OFF OF YOU.

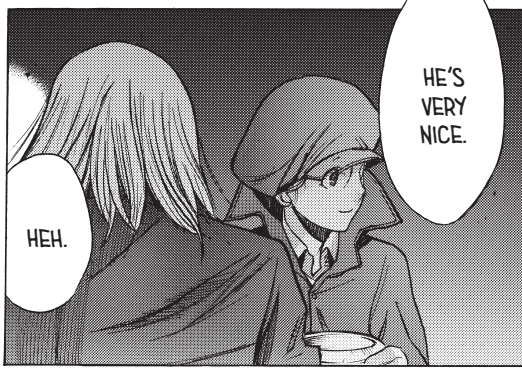

WELL, I CAN'T SEE THEM, SO IT'S NO MATTER TO ME.
HMPH.

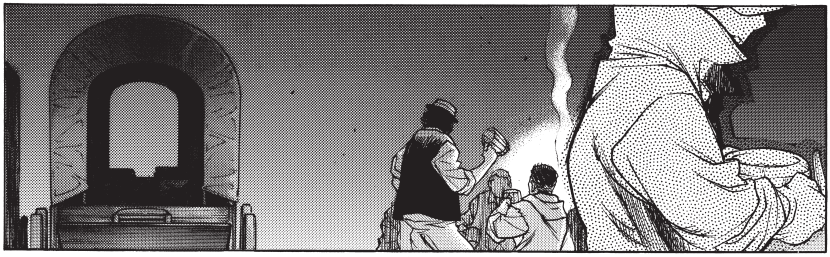

WELL, JUST RELAX TONIGHT.
I SEE YOU'RE AS RESISTANT TO TEASING AS YOU'VE EVER BEEN.

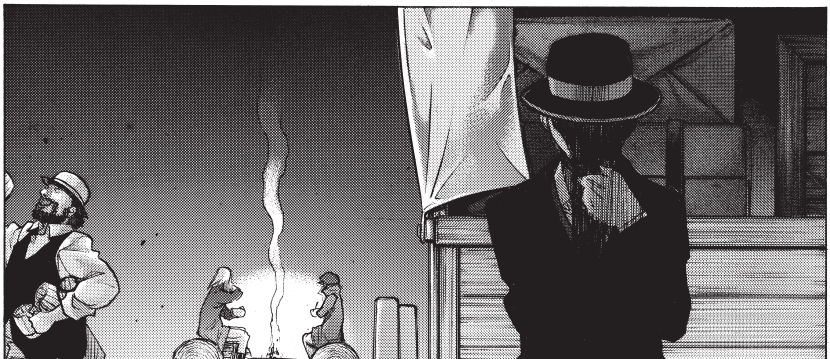
A GROWING BOY NEEDS TO EAT!
FEEL FREE TO ASK FOR SECONDS IF YOU WANT THEM!


AND YOU!


I'VE KNOWN HIM FOR ABOUT A DECADE.
HE ALWAYS SHOWED UP AT MY WORKSHOP. DON'T KNOW WHAT HE SEES IN ME.


HE'S VERY NICE.
HEH.





SO...MISS SHARLE. ABOUT XENOPHON'S NEW DEVICE...THE ONE YOU WERE TELLING ME ABOUT YESTERDAY.
PCHAK

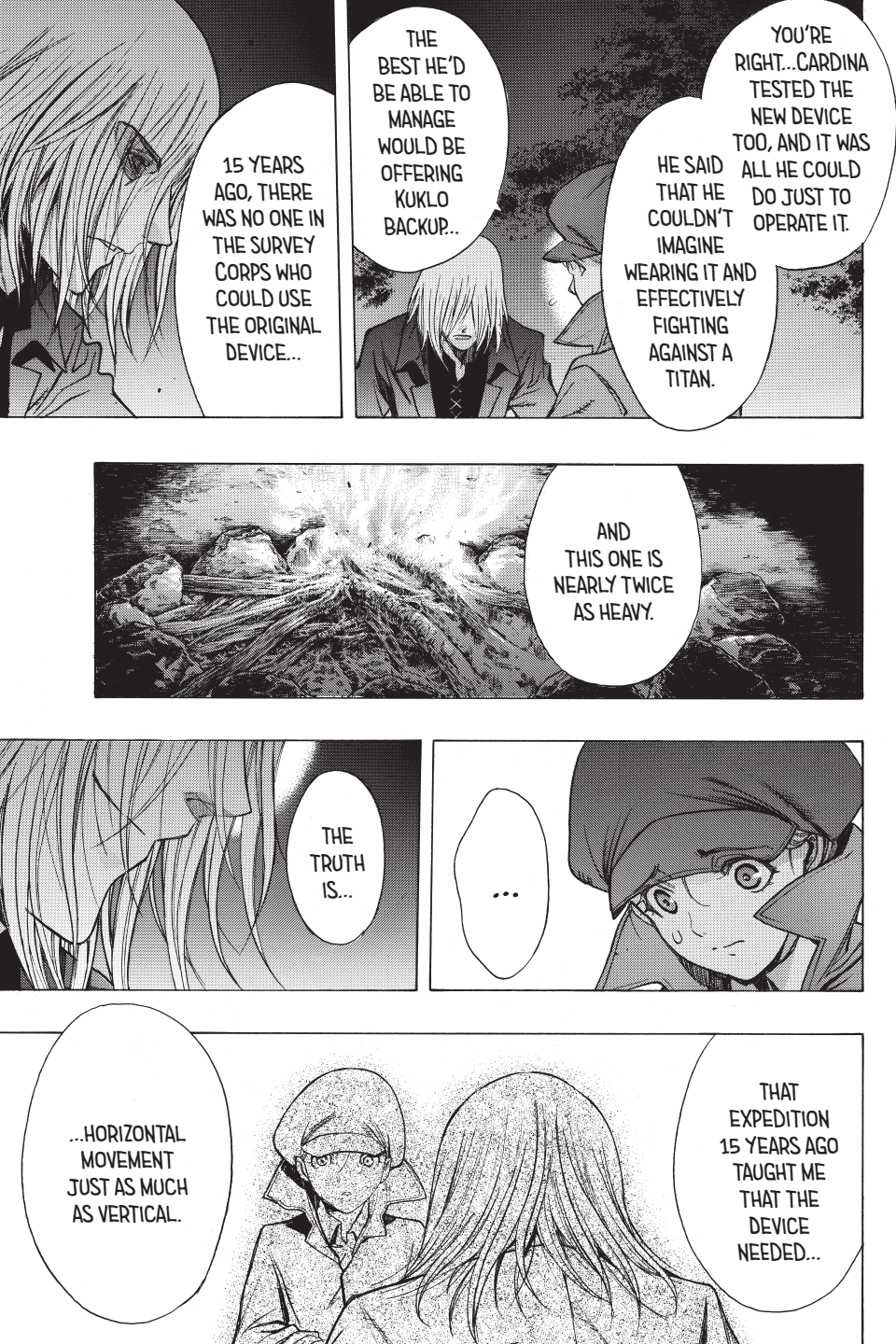
THERE IS A FATAL FLAW TO IT. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT IS?

IT'S... THE WEIGHT, RIGHT?

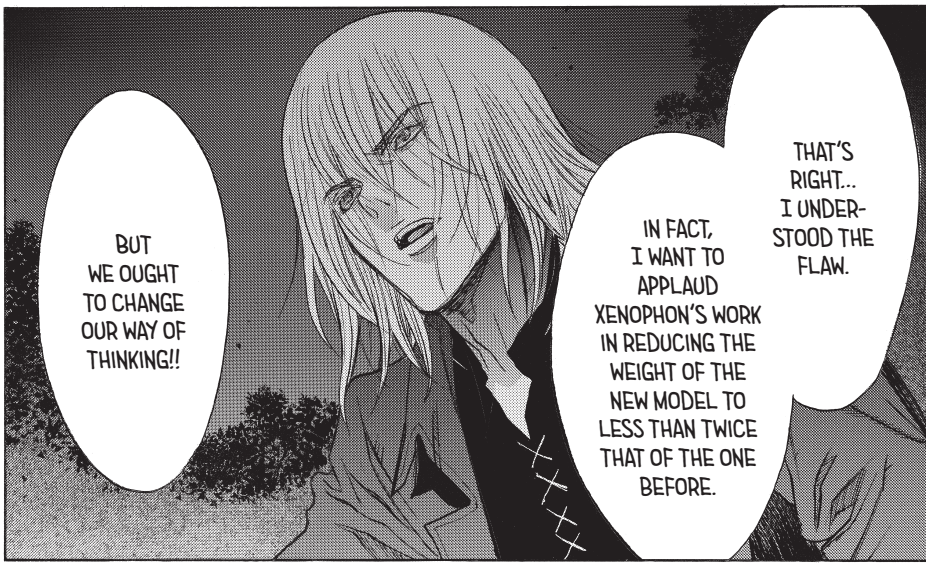
THAT'S CORRECT.

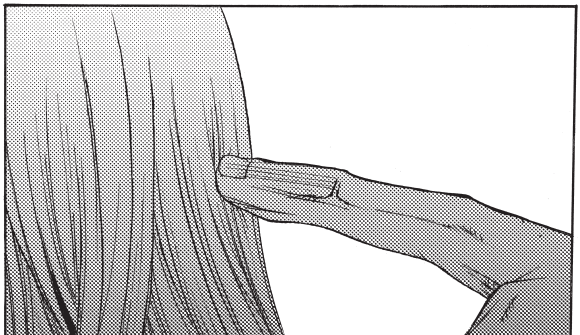
IT'S UNAVOIDABLE, GIVEN THAT IT HAS TWO SYSTEMS FOR BOTH VERTICAL MOVEMENT AND HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT WORKING IN TANDEM.

I SUSPECT THAT THE ONLY ONE CAPABLE OF UTILIZING IT PROPERLY IS THIS KUKLO YOU'VE TOLD ME ABOUT.


15 YEARS AGO, THERE WAS NO ONE IN THE SURVEY CORPS WHO COULD USE THE ORIGINAL DEVICE...
THE BEST HE'D BE ABLE TO MANAGE WOULD BE OFFERING KUKLO BACKUP...
YOU'RE RIGHT...CARDINA TESTED THE NEW DEVICE TOO, AND IT WAS ALL HE COULD DO JUST TO OPERATE IT.
HE SAID THAT HE COULDN'T IMAGINE WEARING IT AND EFFECTIVELY FIGHTING AGAINST A TITAN.
AND THIS ONE IS NEARLY TWICE AS HEAVY.
THE TRUTH IS...
...
...HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT JUST AS MUCH AS VERTICAL.
THAT EXPEDITION 15 YEARS AGO TAUGHT ME THAT THE DEVICE NEEDED...

THEN, YOU MEAN ...!
AND BEFORE I LOST MY EYESIGHT, I SPOKE WITH XENOPHON AND SUGGESTED A DESIGN THAT WOULD COMBINE BOTH CAPABILITIES.


BUT WE OUGHT TO CHANGE OUR WAY OF THINKING!!
IN FACT, I WANT TO APPLAUD XENOPHON'S WORK IN REDUCING THE WEIGHT OF THE NEW MODEL TO LESS THAN TWICE THAT OF THE ONE BEFORE.
THAT'S RIGHT... I UNDER-STOOD THE FLAW.



...WHAT DO YOU ...?

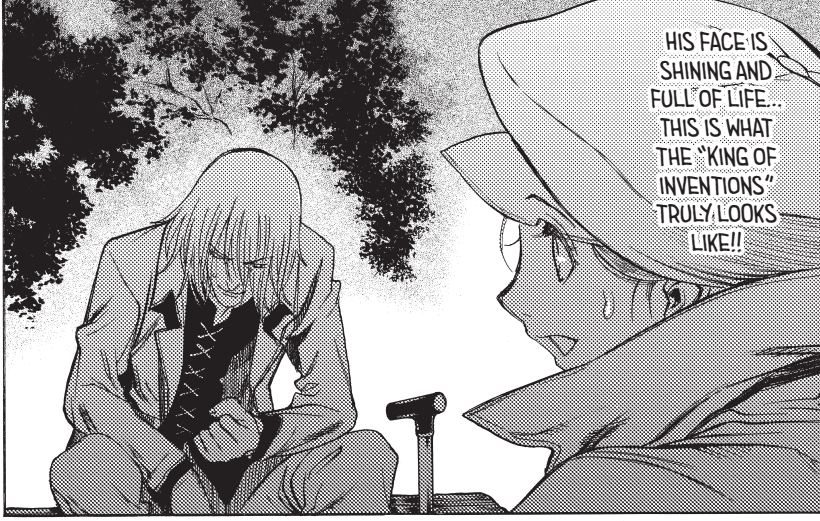
I'VE ALREADY GOT AN IDEA TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM, RIGHT IN HERE.

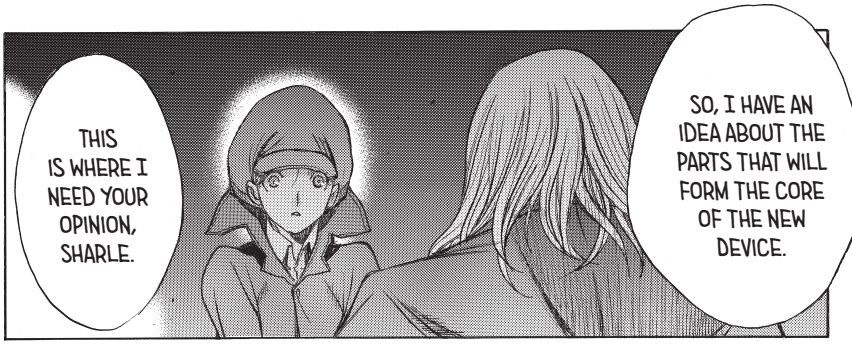
...!!

...ANGEL...

...BUT I'M POSITIVE THAT IT CAN BE PUT INTO PRACTICAL USE!!

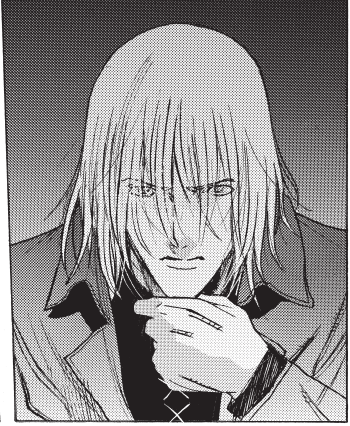
I'LL NEED TO WORK WITH XENOPHON TO HAMMER IT OUT...

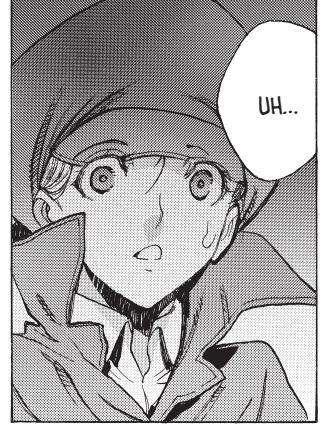

HIS FACE IS SHINING AND FULL OF LIFE... THIS IS WHAT THE "KING OF INVENTIONS" TRULY LOOKS LIKE!!

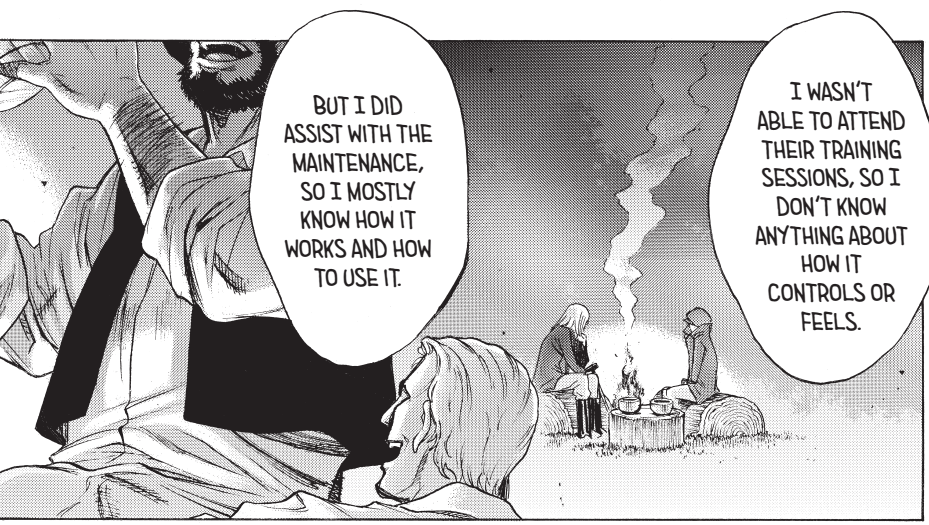

THIS IS WHERE I NEED YOUR OPINION, SHARLE.
SO, I HAVE AN IDEA ABOUT THE PARTS THAT WILL FORM THE CORE OF THE NEW DEVICE.

YOU'VE SEEN THE NEW DEVICE BEING OPERATED, HAVEN'T YOU? TELL ME ANYTHING YOU CAN THINK OF.
IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU WOULD CONSIDER TO BE A FLAW?

...LET'S SEE...




UH...


BUT I DID ASSIST WITH THE MAINTENANCE, SO I MOSTLY KNOW HOW IT WORKS AND HOW TO USE IT.
I WASN'T ABLE TO ATTEND THEIR TRAINING SESSIONS, SO I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HOW IT CONTROLS OR FEELS.

WELL...

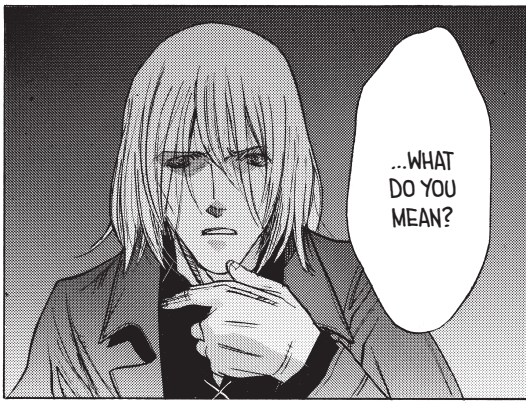
TELL ME. I INSIST.

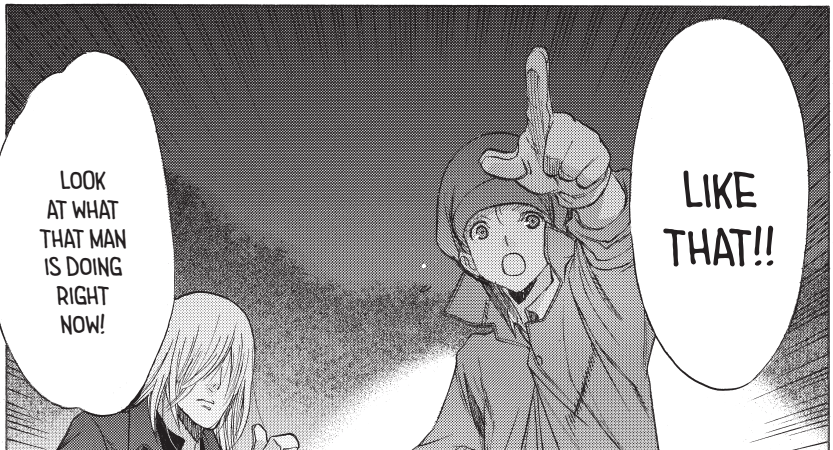
THIS MIGHT BE AN AMATEUR'S OPINION... BUT...

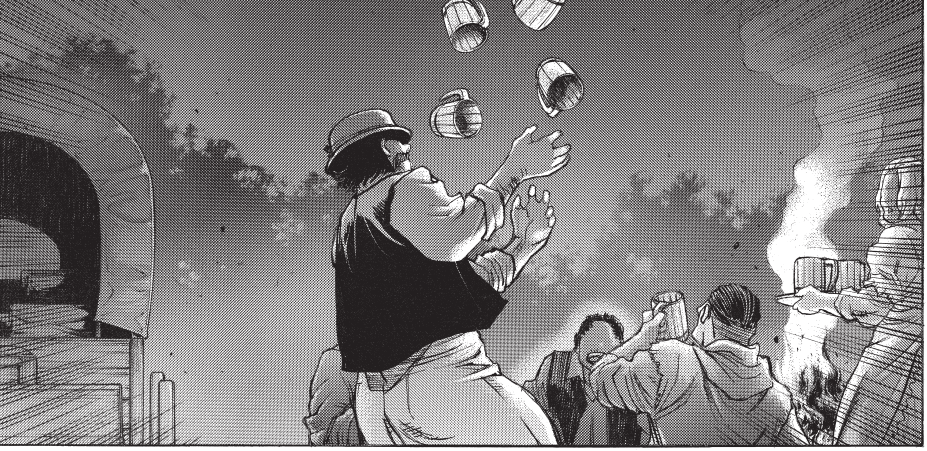
I WAS THINKING THAT IT WAS A SHAME THAT OPERATING THE DEVICE REQUIRES THE USE OF AN ENTIRE HAND...

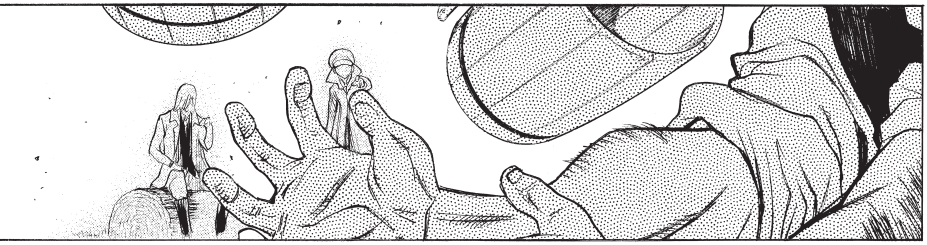
AH

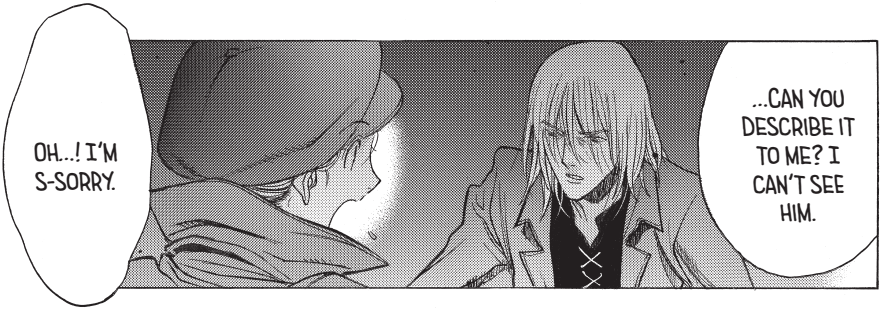
UH.
LET'S SEE...


...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

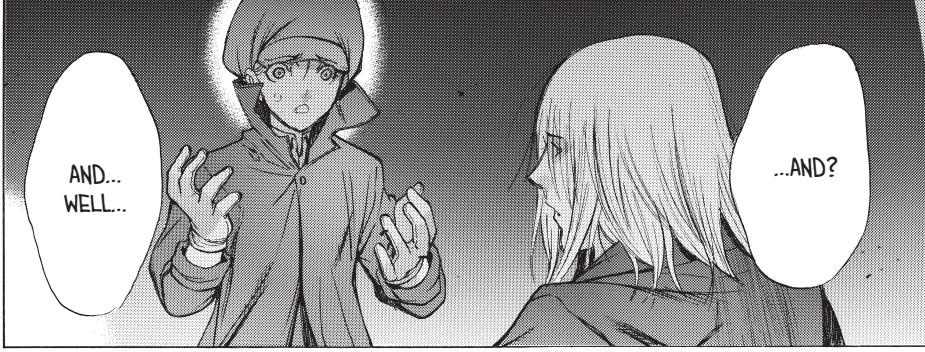

LIKE THAT!!
LOOK AT WHAT THAT MAN IS DOING RIGHT NOW!

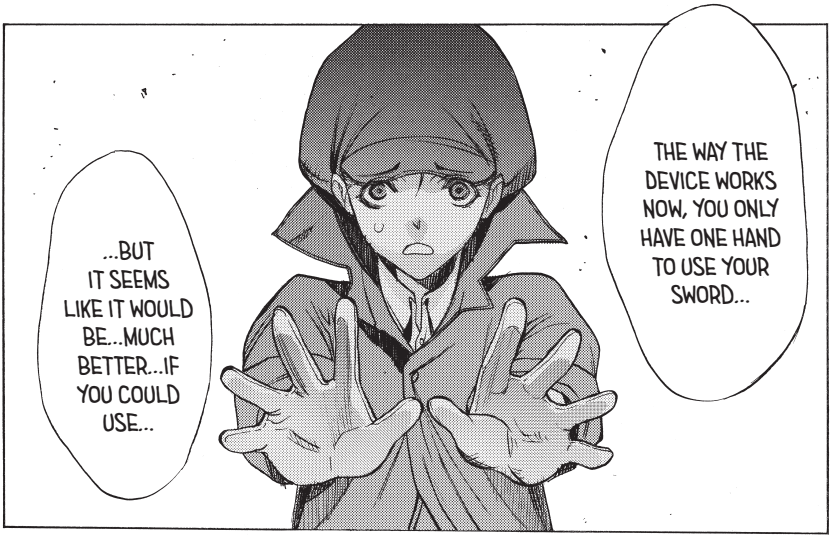


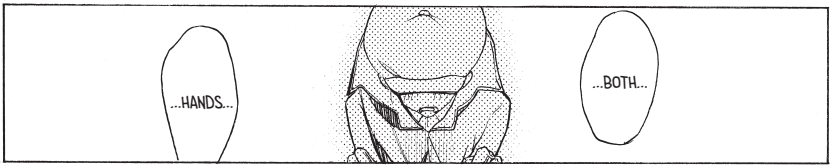


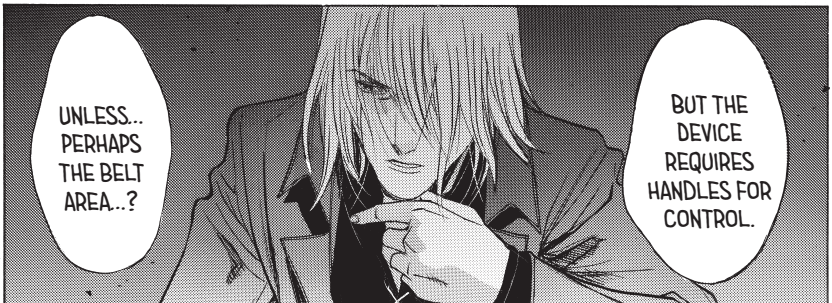

OH...! I'M S-SORRY.
...CAN YOU DESCRIBE IT TO ME? I CAN'T SEE HIM.

BOTH HANDS... LIKE THIS...
HE'S STANDING IN FRONT OF THE FIRE, USING BOTH HANDS TO JUGGLE FOUR STEINS AT ONCE.

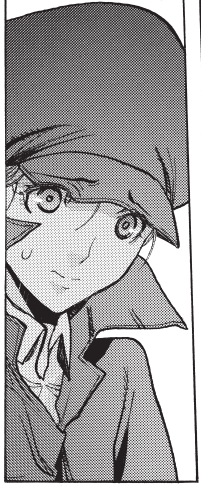

AND... WELL...
...AND?


...BUT IT SEEMS LIKE IT WOULD BE...MUCH BETTER...IF YOU COULD USE...
THE WAY THE DEVICE WORKS NOW, YOU ONLY HAVE ONE HAND TO USE YOUR SWORD...

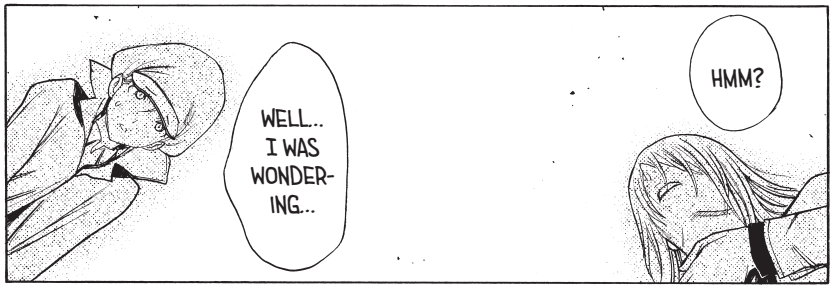

...HANDS...
...BOTH...

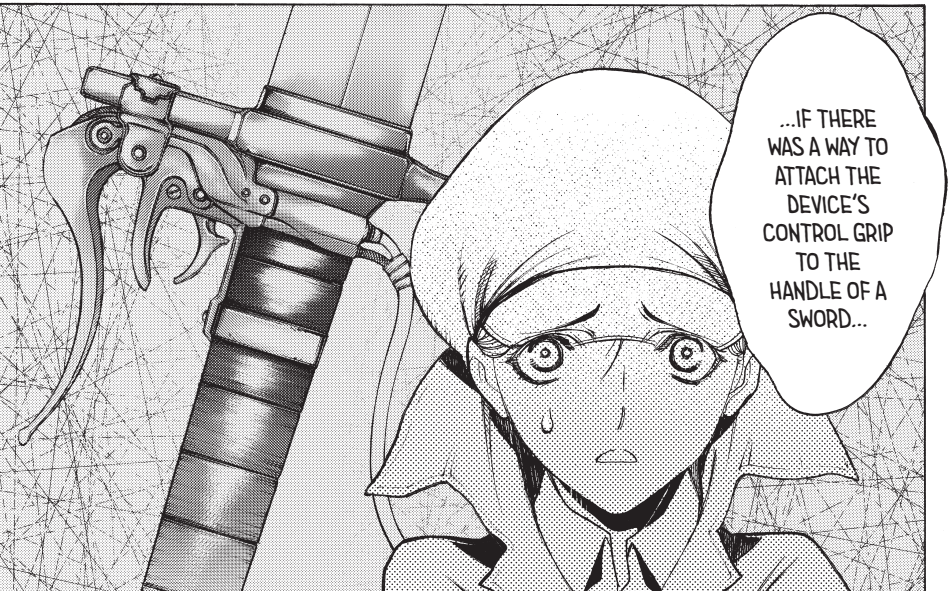

UNLESS... PERHAPS THE BELT AREA...?
BUT THE DEVICE REQUIRES HANDLES FOR CONTROL.

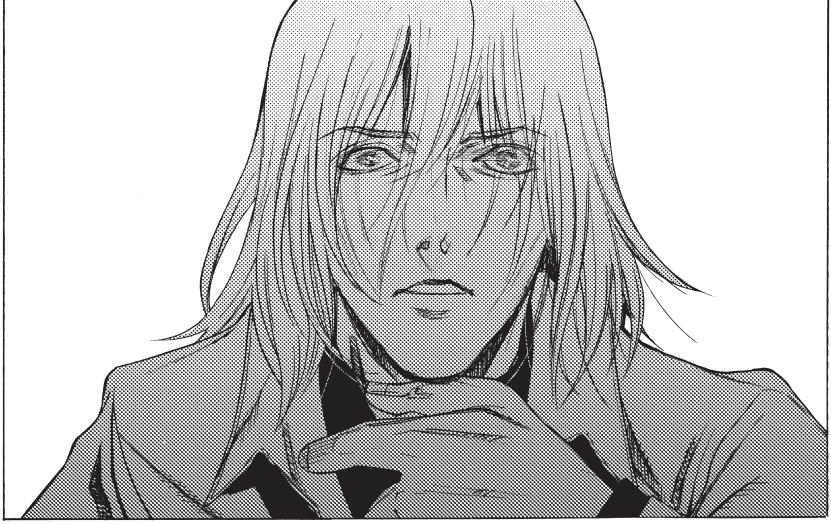
UM...
...
...

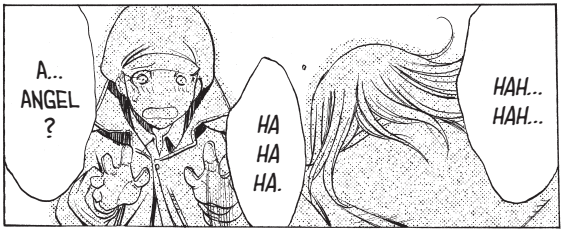


OR THE CHEST...? COULD WE ATTACH A CONTROL MECHANISM THERE...?
BUT, NO... YOU'D STILL NEED ONE HAND TO OPERATE IT WHEN MOVING.
STILL, THAT WOULD AT LEAST ALLOW FOR DOUBLE-HANDED WEAPON USE WHEN NOT IN MOTION...

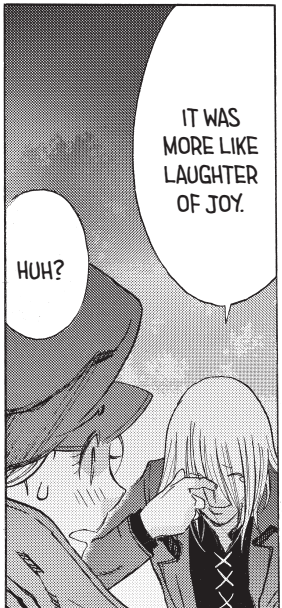

HMM?
WELL... I WAS WONDER-ING...


...IF THERE WAS A WAY TO ATTACH THE DEVICE'S CONTROL GRIP TO THE HANDLE OF A SWORD...



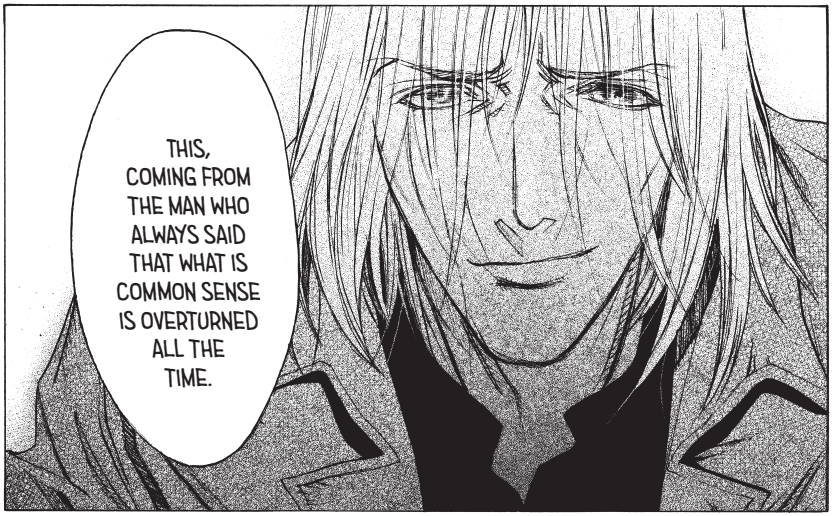

A... ANGEL ?
HA HA HA.
HAH... HAH...

HEH...

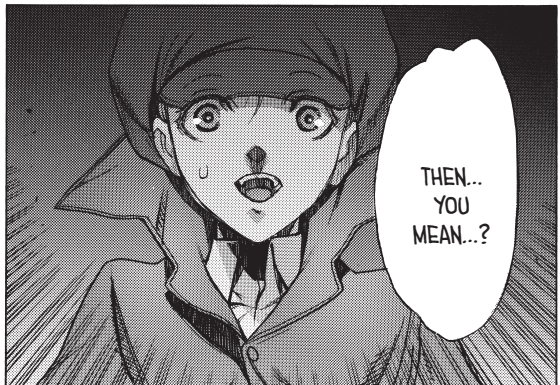

IT WAS MORE LIKE LAUGHTER OF JOY.
HUH?

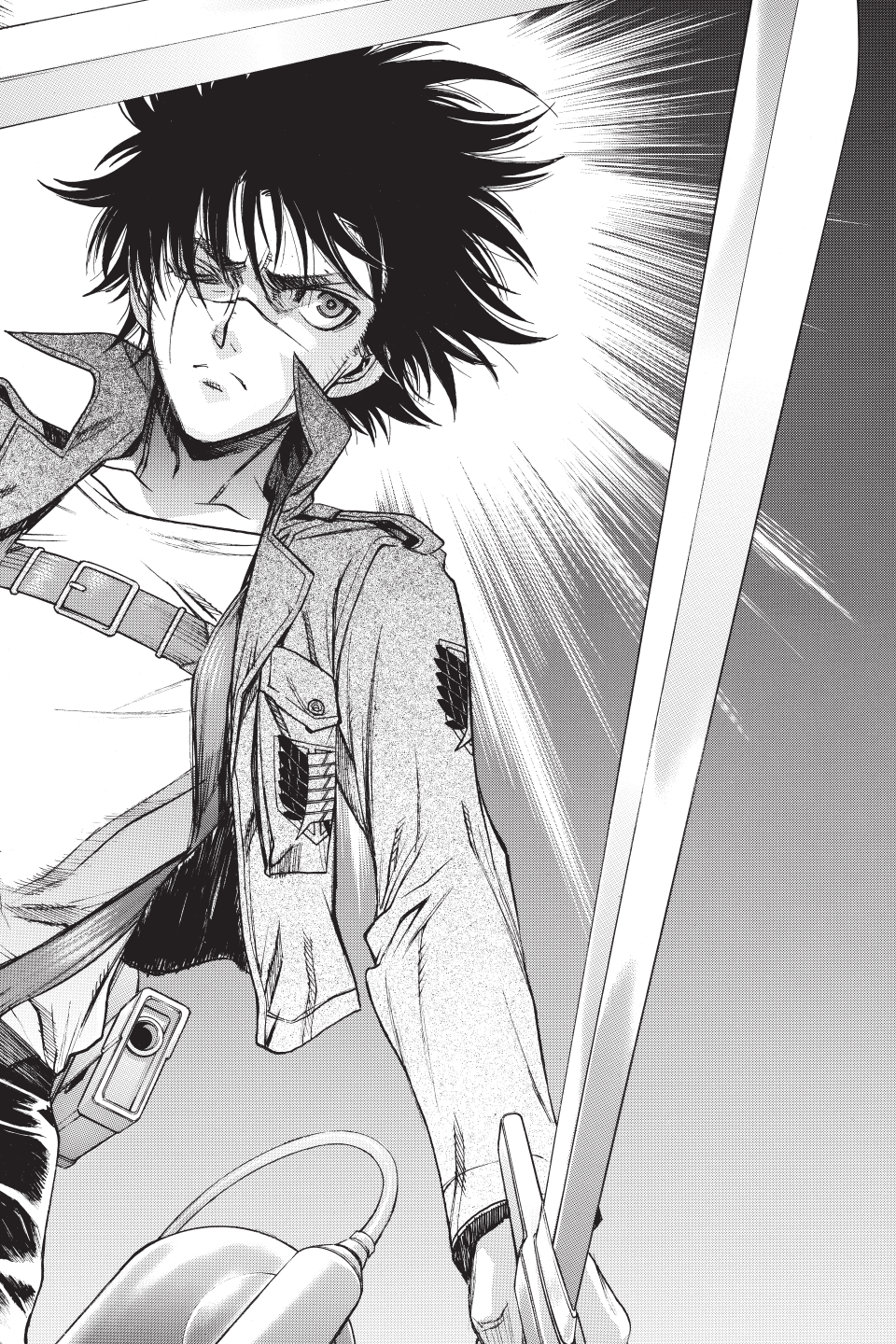
AHA HA HA HA HA HA!
I'M SORRY... IT'S STUPID, I KNOW.
AHA HA HA...NO! I'M SORRY! I WASN'T LAUGHING TO MOCK YOU. REALLY, I WASN'T.

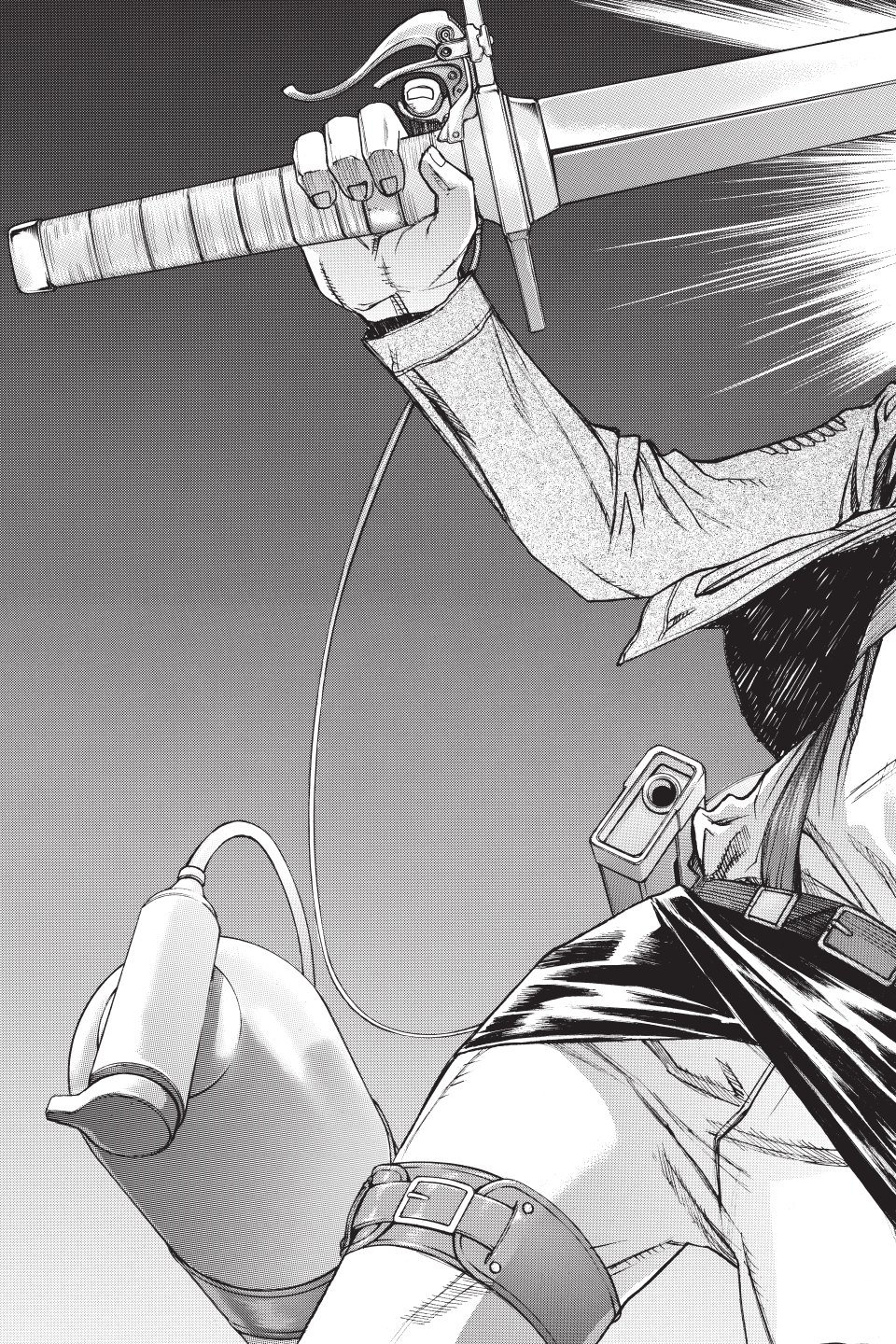
...THAT I ASSUMED THE DEVICE MUST BE THE DEVICE, AND THE SWORD MUST BE A SWORD.
AT SOME POINT, I BECAME SO FIXED IN MY WAY OF THINKING...

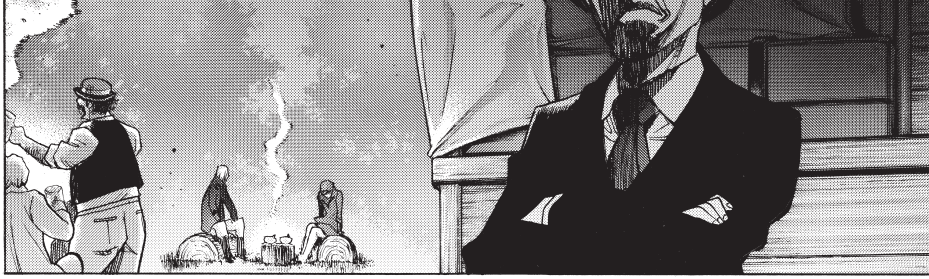

THIS, COMING FROM THE MAN WHO ALWAYS SAID THAT WHAT IS COMMON SENSE IS OVERTURNED ALL THE TIME.

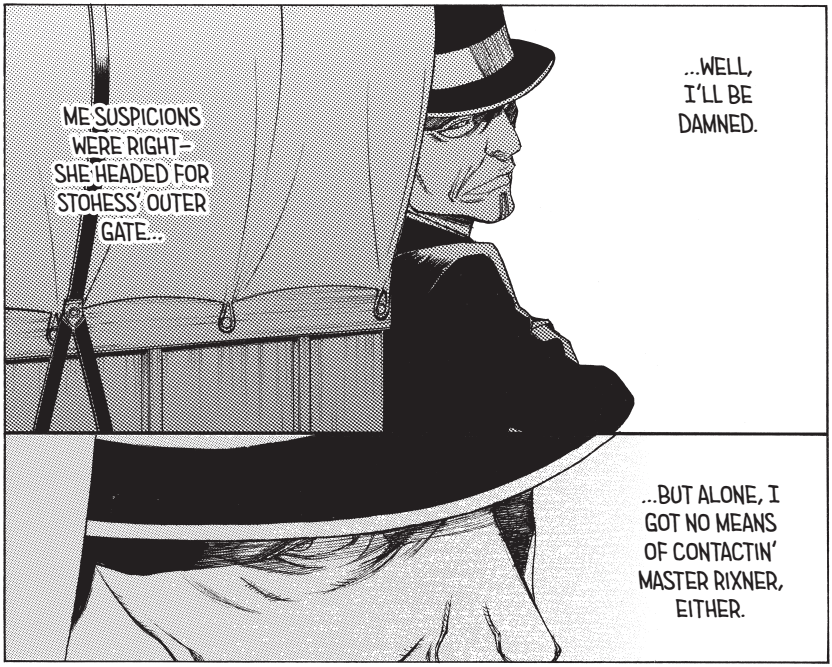
YES! IT WILL WORK!


THEN... YOU MEAN...?

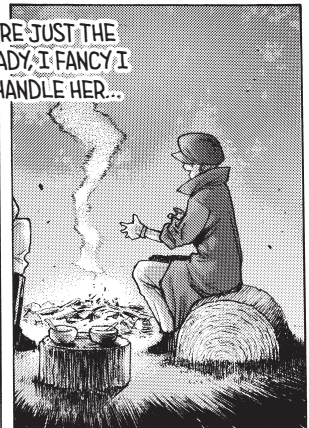




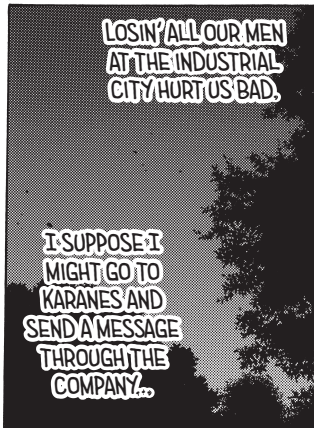



ME SUSPICIONS WERE RIGHT– SHE HEADED FOR STOHESS' OUTER GATE...
...WELL, I'LL BE DAMNED.
...BUT ALONE, I GOT NO MEANS OF CONTACTIN' MASTER RIXNER, EITHER.

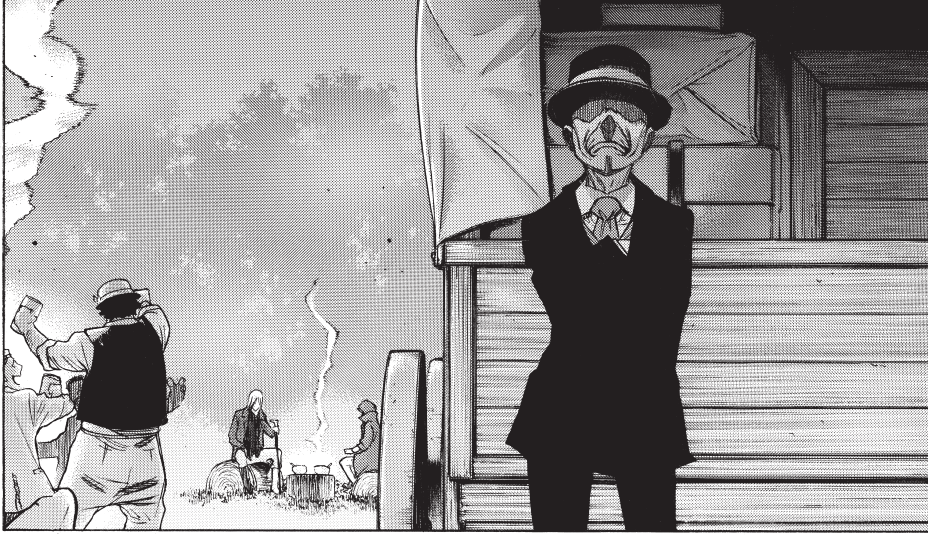
IF IT WERE JUST THE YOUNG LADY, I FANCY I COULD HANDLE HER...

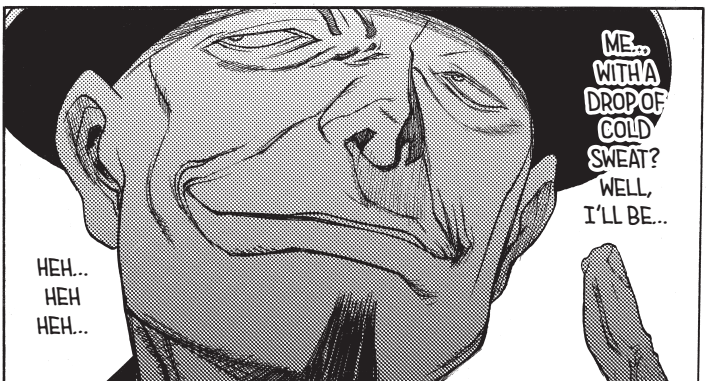


...BUT THERE AIN'T LIKE TO BE BACKUP FOR A GOOD WHILE YET.
BETTER TO STICK CLOSE AND DETERMINE WHERE THEY INTEND TO GO.


LOSIN' ALL OUR MEN AT THE INDUSTRIAL CITY HURT US BAD.
I SUPPOSE I MIGHT GO TO KARANES AND SEND A MESSAGE THROUGH THE COMPANY...

BEST TO JUST KILL HIM, MAYHAPS.
BASED ON THE STATE OF HIS EYES, I DON'T MARK HIM TO BE SERVING CURRENTLY... BUT HE AIN'T WELCOME.
BUT THE FELLOW... WHO IS HE?




ME... WITH A DROP OF COLD SWEAT? WELL, I'LL BE...
HEH... HEH HEH...

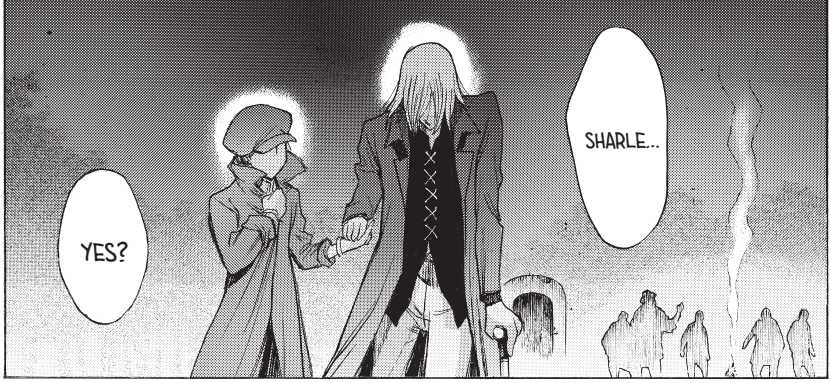
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
ANGEL?

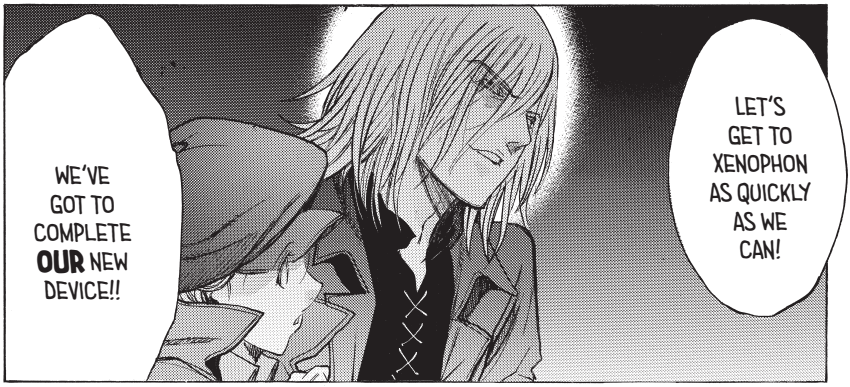
I WAS IMAGINING THINGS.
...NOTHING.

OH... RIGHT!

?
LET'S GET TO SLEEP. IT'S AN EARLY MORNING FOR US.

TAK

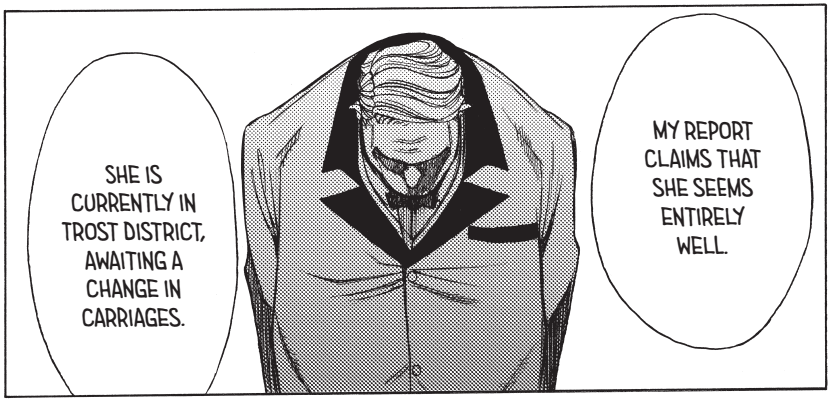

SHARLE...
YES?


LET'S GET TO XENOPHON AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN!
WE'VE GOT TO COMPLETE **OUR** NEW DEVICE!!

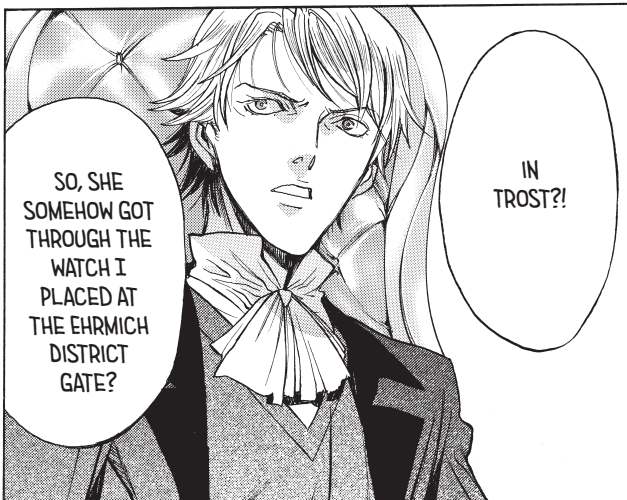
OF COURSE !!!

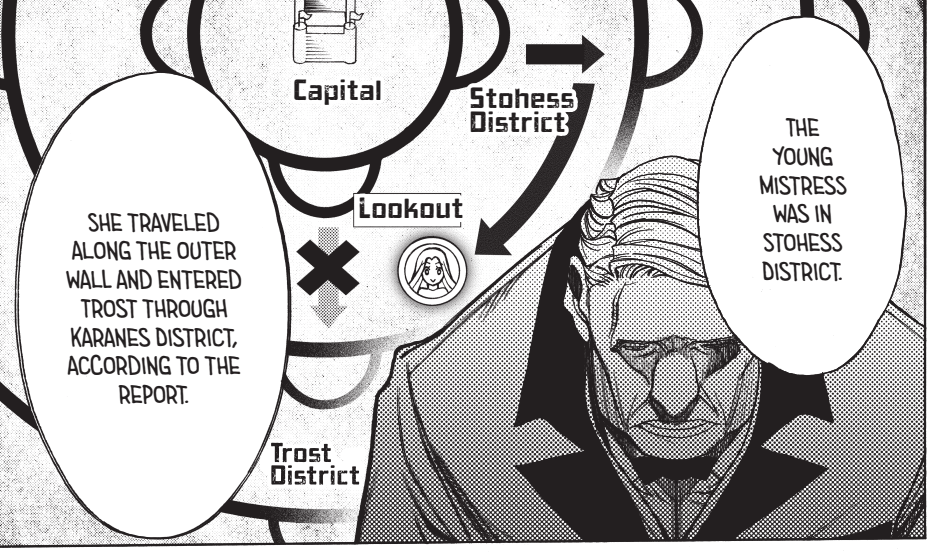
Inocencio Manor
PARDON ME, MASTER.
KNOCK KNOCK
コンコン
WE'VE IDENTIFIED MISTRESS SHARLE'S LOCATION.
SIR...
WHAT IS IT, RIXNER?

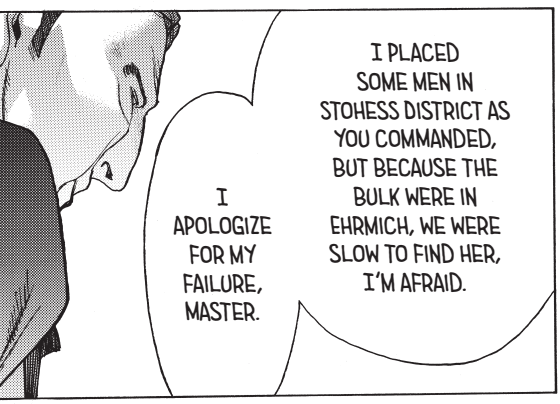
YES.
IS SHE SAFE ?!
WHAT ?!
WHERE HAS SHE BEEN?!

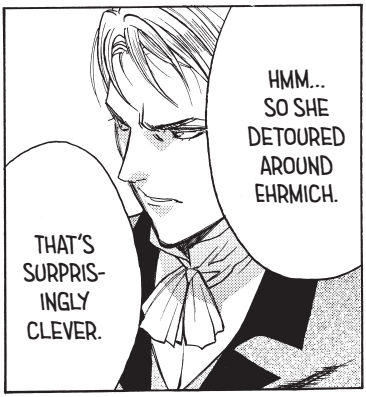

SHE IS CURRENTLY IN TROST DISTRICT, AWAITING A CHANGE IN CARRIAGES.
MY REPORT CLAIMS THAT SHE SEEMS ENTIRELY WELL.

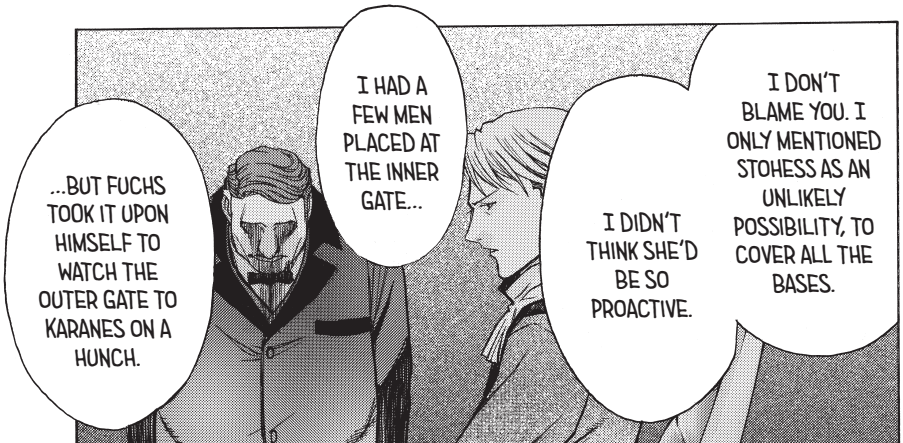
NO...


SO, SHE SOMEHOW GOT THROUGH THE WATCH I PLACED AT THE EHRMICH DISTRICT GATE?
IN TROST?!

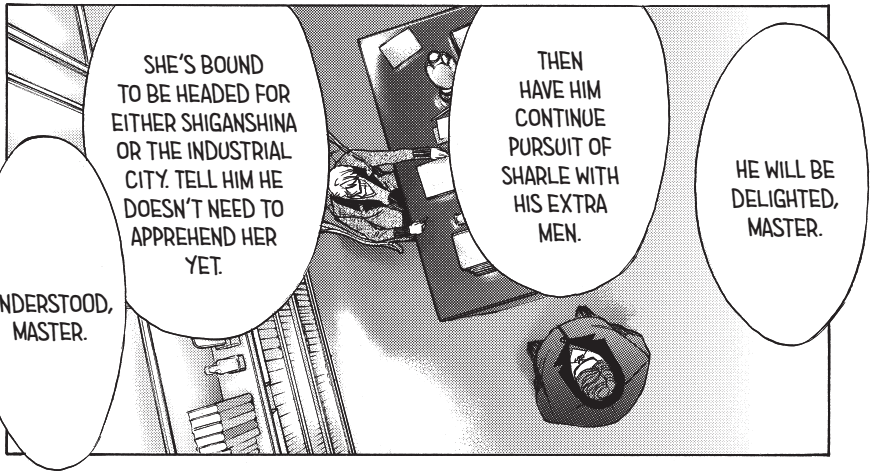

Capital
Stohess District
Lookout
Trost District
THE YOUNG MISTRESS WAS IN STOHESS DISTRICT.
SHE TRAVELED ALONG THE OUTER WALL AND ENTERED TROST THROUGH KARANES DISTRICT, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT.

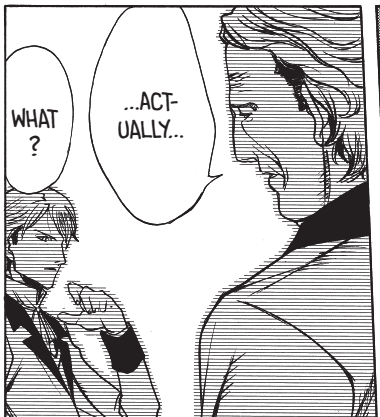

I PLACED SOME MEN IN STOHESS DISTRICT AS YOU COMMANDED, BUT BECAUSE THE BULK WERE IN EHRMICH, WE WERE SLOW TO FIND HER, I'M AFRAID.
I APOLOGIZE FOR MY FAILURE, MASTER.

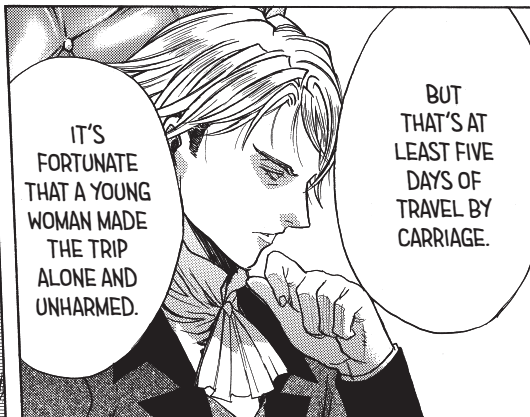

HMM... SO SHE DETOURED AROUND EHRMICH.
THAT'S SURPRISINGLY CLEVER.


I HAD A FEW MEN PLACED AT THE INNER GATE...
...BUT FUCHS TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO WATCH THE OUTER GATE TO KARANES ON A HUNCH.
I DON'T BLAME YOU. I ONLY MENTIONED STOHESS AS AN UNLIKELY POSSIBILITY, TO COVER ALL THE BASES.
I DIDN'T THINK SHE'D BE SO PROACTIVE.

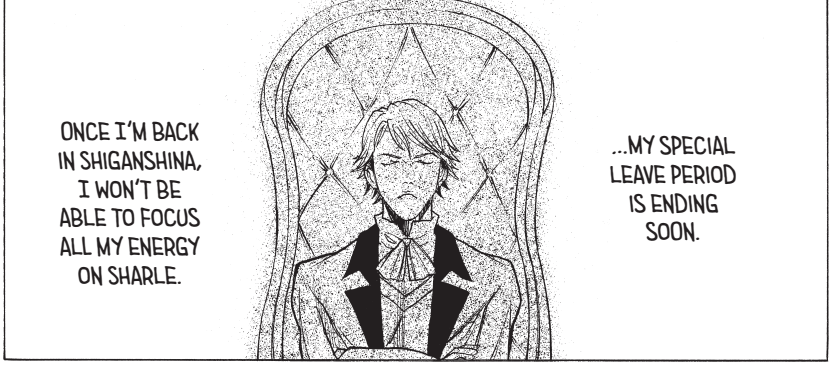
AH, THAT SHADY FELLOW...?
HE IS USEFUL. PROVIDE HIM WITH ASSISTANTS, IF NEED BE.


HE WILL BE DELIGHTED, MASTER.
THEN HAVE HIM CONTINUE PURSUIT OF SHARLE WITH HIS EXTRA MEN.
SHE'S BOUND TO BE HEADED FOR EITHER SHIGANSHINA OR THE INDUSTRIAL CITY. TELL HIM HE DOESN'T NEED TO APPREHEND HER YET.
UNDERSTOOD, MASTER.


...ACT-UALLY...
WHAT ?


BUT THAT'S AT LEAST FIVE DAYS OF TRAVEL BY CARRIAGE.
IT'S FORTUNATE THAT A YOUNG WOMAN MADE THE TRIP ALONE AND UNHARMED.

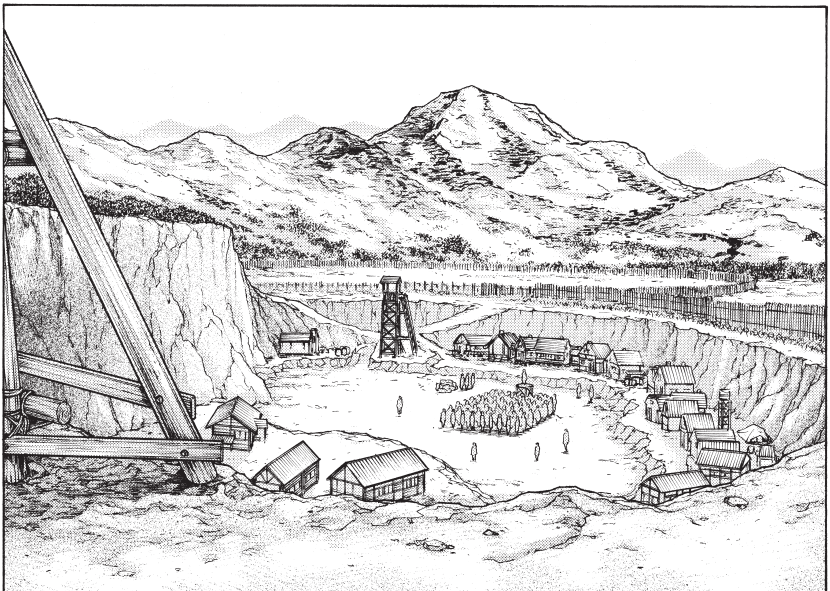
OH... BUT FUCHS INDICATED THAT THERE WAS NOTHING OF THE ROMANTIC SORT BETWEEN THEM.
I TRUST HIS JUDGMENT IN THIS MATTER.
HMPH.
APPARENTLY, SHE IS TRAVELING WITH A MIDDLE-AGED MAN WHOM SHE LIKELY JOINED IN STOHESS DISTRICT.
!
IDENTIFY THE MAN.
AND FIND OUT WHAT SHE WAS DOING IN STOHESS.
AT ONCE, MASTER.
CREAK


ONCE I'M BACK IN SHIGANSHINA, I WON'T BE ABLE TO FOCUS ALL MY ENERGY ON SHARLE.
...MY SPECIAL LEAVE PERIOD IS ENDING SOON.

Chapter 42: Traveling Skies · End

ATTACK ON TITAN

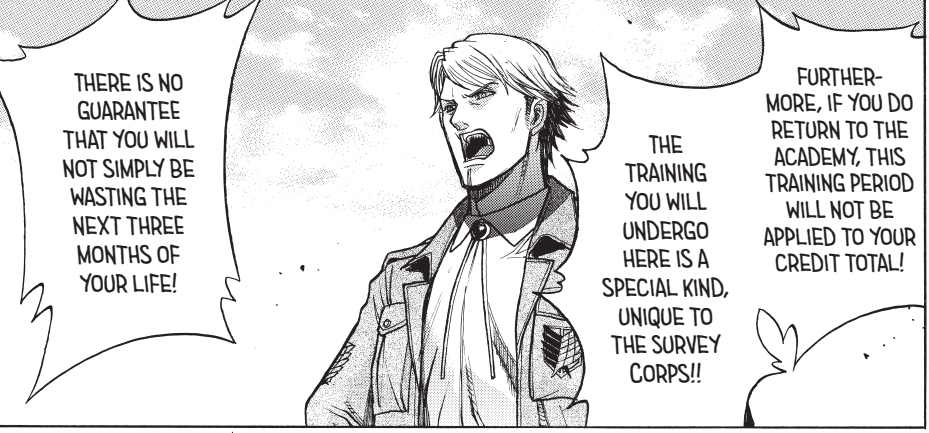
BEFORE THE FALL

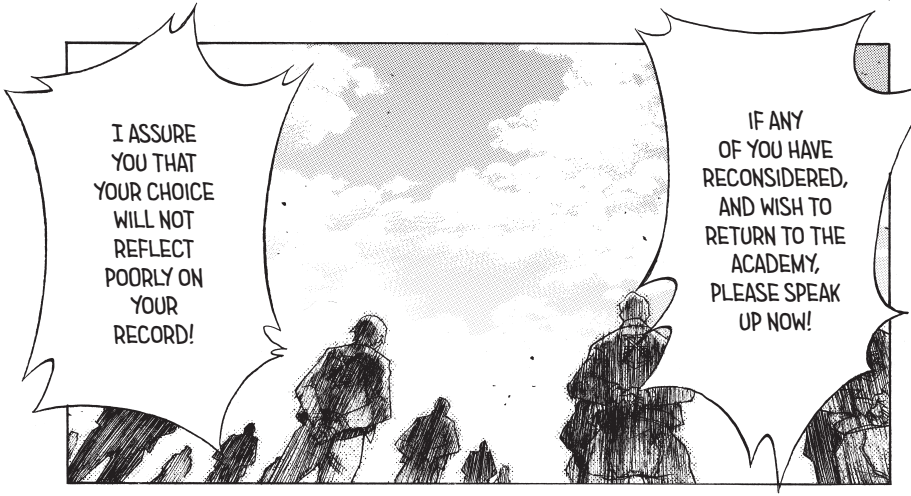


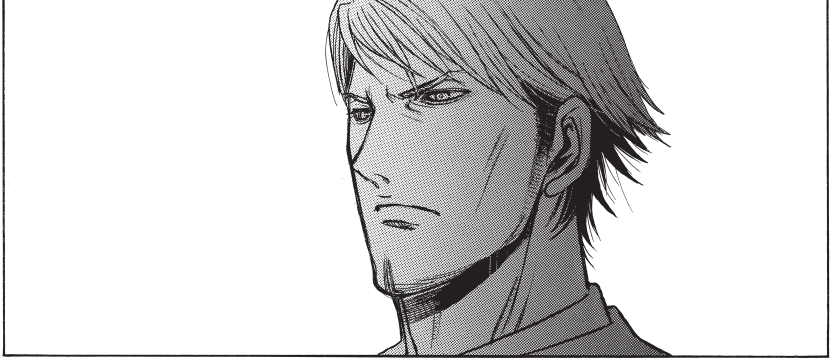
I AM CAPTAIN CARLO PIKALE OF THE SURVEY CORPS!!!

AS YOUR CAPTAIN, ALLOW ME TO THANK YOU FOR ENLISTING IN THIS DANGEROUS BUT CRUCIAL DUTY!!

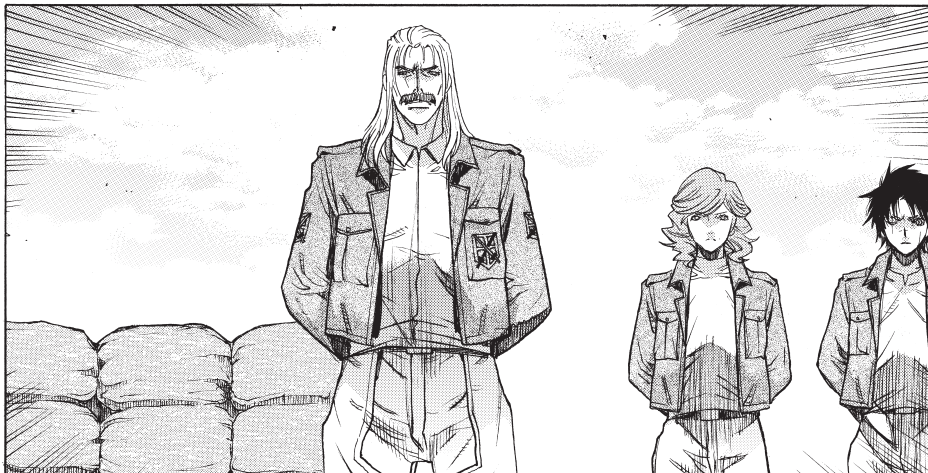
THE TRAINING OVER THE NEXT THREE MONTHS WILL DETERMINE IF YOU ARE WORTHY OF IT!
BUT YOU HAVE NOT YET BEEN GIVEN THE UNIFORM OF THE SURVEY CORPS!
ONLY THOSE WHO ARE LEFT AT THE END WILL BE WELCOMED INTO THESE PROUD RANKS!
THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE NOT FOUND FIT TO CONTINUE WILL BE RETURNED TO THE TRAINING ACADEMY!

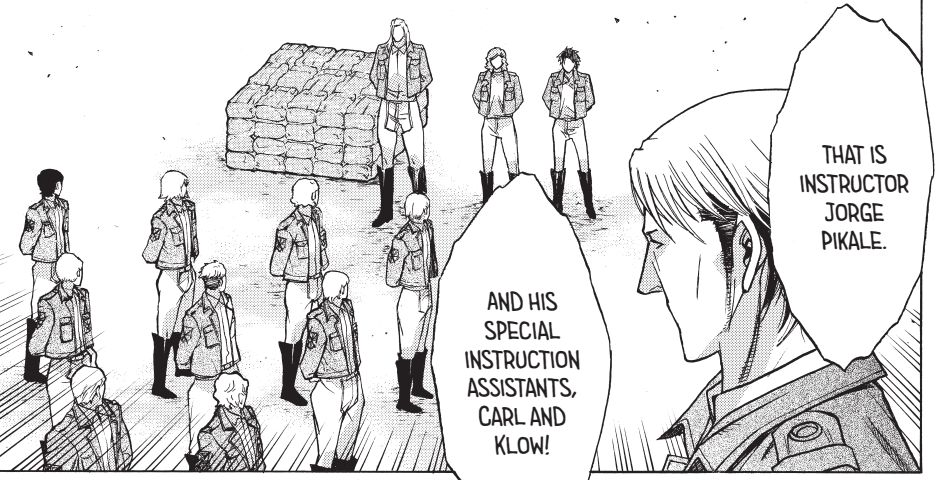

THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT YOU WILL NOT SIMPLY BE WASTING THE NEXT THREE MONTHS OF YOUR LIFE!
THE TRAINING YOU WILL UNDERGO HERE IS A SPECIAL KIND, UNIQUE TO THE SURVEY CORPS!!
FURTHER-MORE, IF YOU DO RETURN TO THE ACADEMY, THIS TRAINING PERIOD WILL NOT BE APPLIED TO YOUR CREDIT TOTAL!

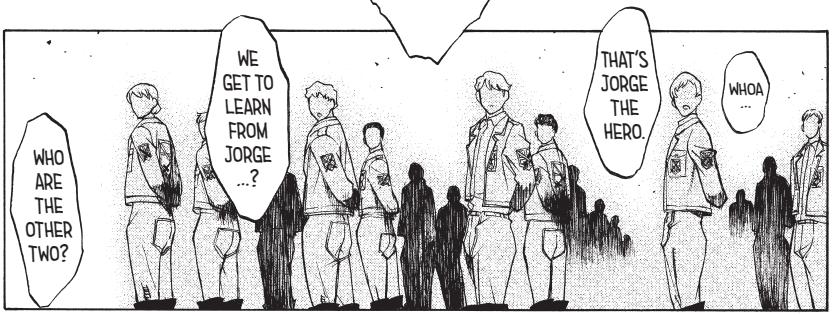

I ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR CHOICE WILL NOT REFLECT POORLY ON YOUR RECORD!
IF ANY OF YOU HAVE RECONSIDERED, AND WISH TO RETURN TO THE ACADEMY, PLEASE SPEAK UP NOW!

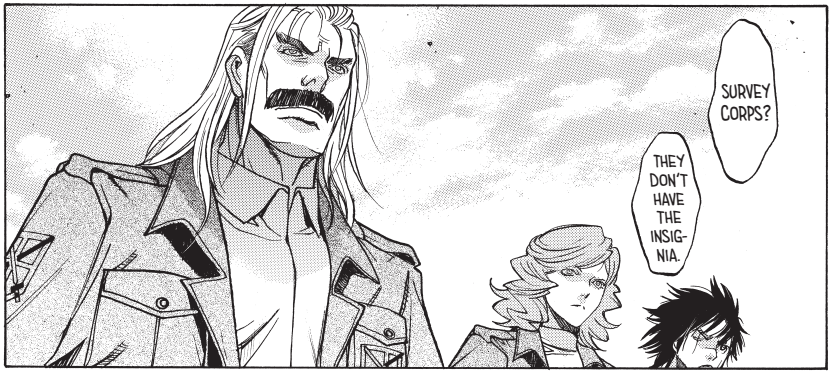


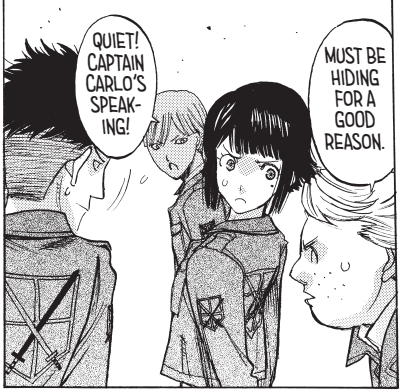
SWISH
LOOK TO YOUR LEFT!
NOW, I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOUR INSTRUCTOR FOR THIS SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE!

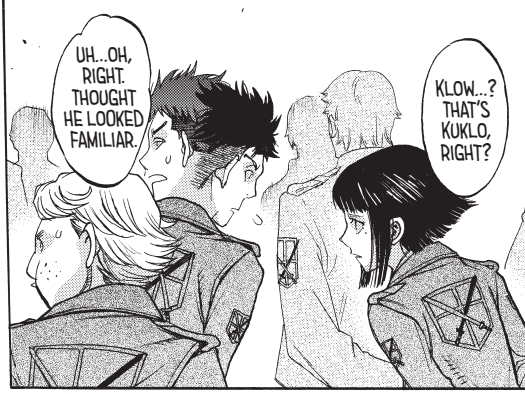


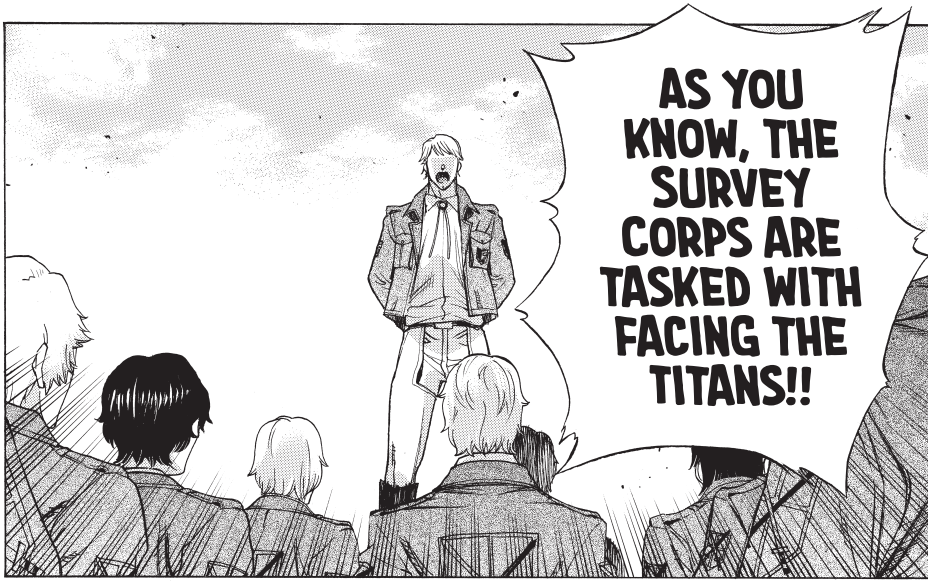

THAT IS INSTRUCTOR JORGE PIKALE.
AND HIS SPECIAL INSTRUCTION ASSISTANTS, CARL AND KLOW!

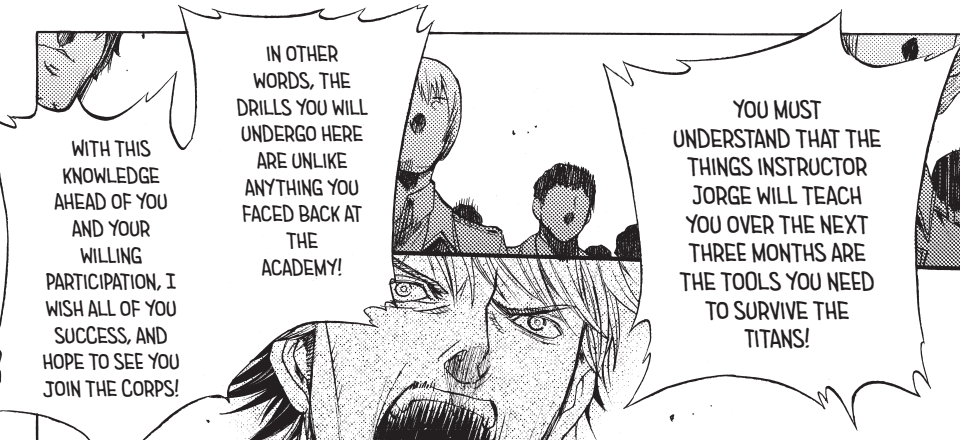

WHO ARE THE OTHER TWO?
WE GET TO LEARN FROM JORGE ...?
THAT'S JORGE THE HERO.
WHOA ...


SURVEY CORPS?
THEY DON'T HAVE THE INSIG-NIA.


QUIET! CAPTAIN CARLO'S SPEAKING!
MUST BE HIDING FOR A GOOD REASON.

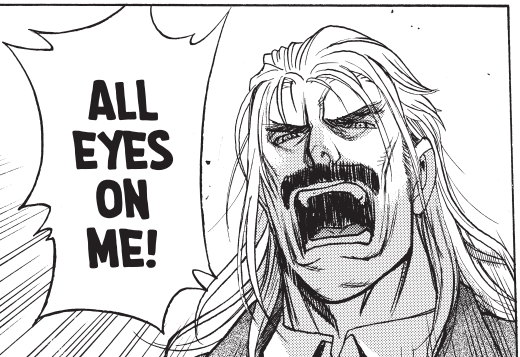

UH...OH, RIGHT. THOUGHT HE LOOKED FAMILIAR.
KLOW...? THAT'S KUKLO, RIGHT?

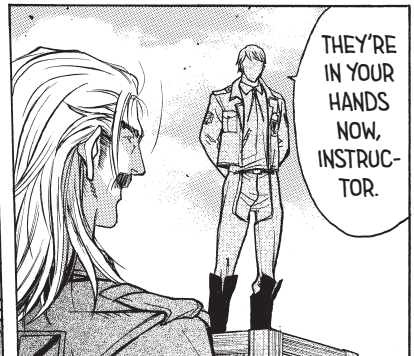

AS YOU KNOW, THE SURVEY CORPS ARE TASKED WITH FACING THE TITANS!!


WITH THIS KNOWLEDGE AHEAD OF YOU AND YOUR WILLING PARTICIPATION, I WISH ALL OF YOU SUCCESS, AND HOPE TO SEE YOU JOIN THE CORPS!
IN OTHER WORDS, THE DRILLS YOU WILL UNDERGO HERE ARE UNLIKE ANYTHING YOU FACED BACK AT THE ACADEMY!
YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE THINGS INSTRUCTOR JORGE WILL TEACH YOU OVER THE NEXT THREE MONTHS ARE THE TOOLS YOU NEED TO SURVIVE THE TITANS!

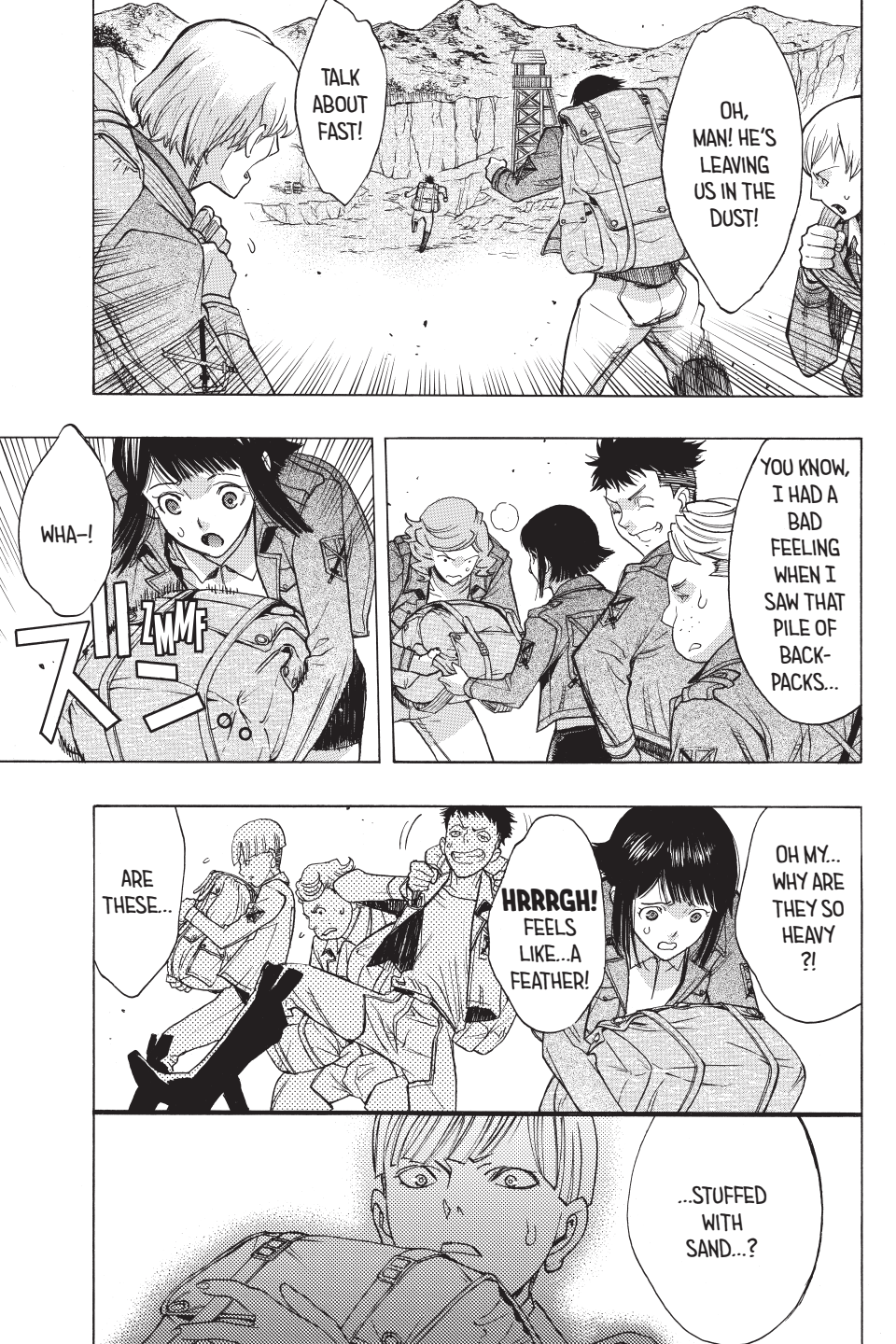
WHUP

WHUP


ALL EYES ON ME!


THEY'RE IN YOUR HANDS NOW, INSTRUC-TOR.

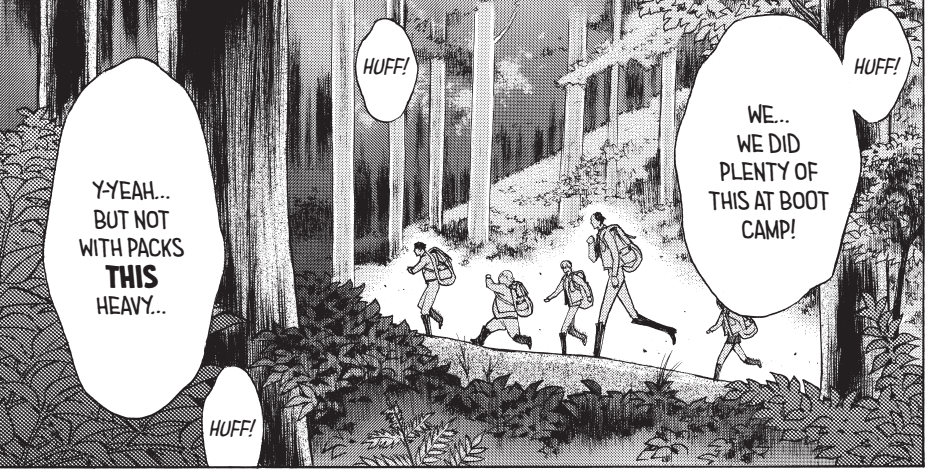
STARTING WITH THE FRONT ROW, FROM THE LEFT, COME AND GET A KNAPSACK, ONE AT A TIME!
WHEN YOU HAVE YOUR KNAPSACK ON, YOU WILL RUN AFTER KLOW!!
WHOA!
AH!
WHAT THE HELL'S IN HERE...?
IT'S SO... HEAVY !

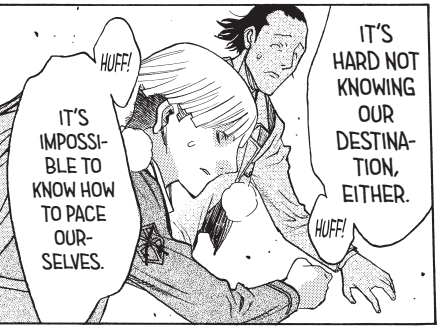

TALK ABOUT FAST!
OH, MAN! HE'S LEAVING US IN THE DUST!
WHA–!
ズーン
ZMMF
YOU KNOW, I HAD A BAD FEELING WHEN I SAW THAT PILE OF BACK-PACKS...
ARE THESE...
HRRRGH! FEELS LIKE...A FEATHER!
OH MY... WHY ARE THEY SO HEAVY ?!
...STUFFED WITH SAND...?

HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!

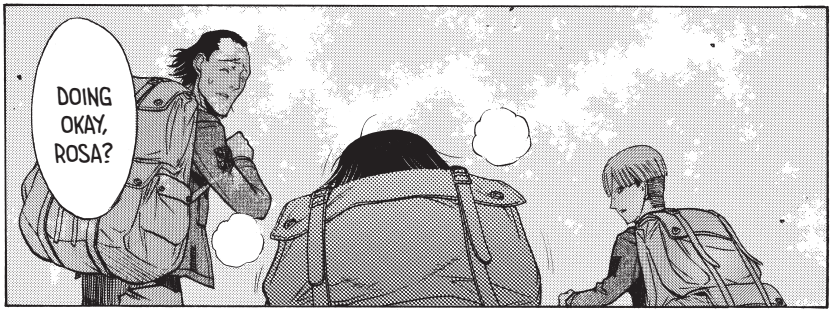
THIS IS JUST...
...LOGIS-TICS TRAINING, ISN'T IT...?

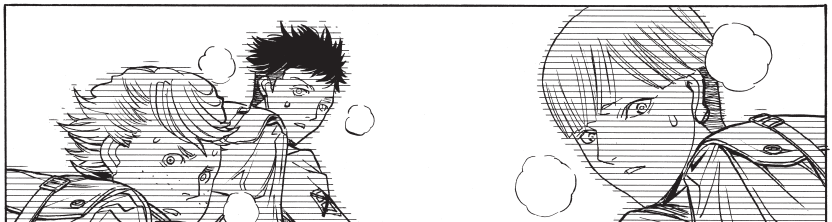
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!


HUFF!
HUFF!
WE... WE DID PLENTY OF THIS AT BOOT CAMP!
Y-YEAH... BUT NOT WITH PACKS **THIS** HEAVY...
HUFF!

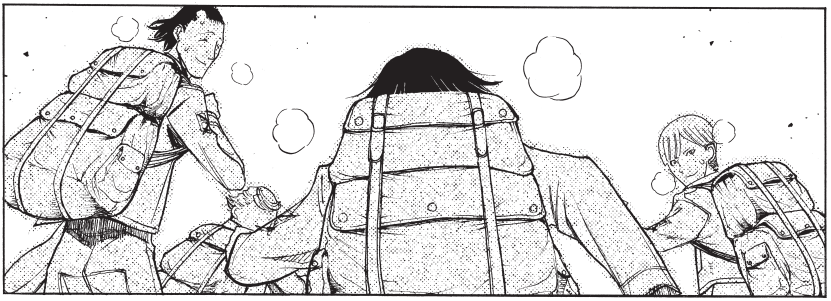

IT'S HARD NOT KNOWING OUR DESTINA-TION, EITHER.
HUFF!
HUFF!
IT'S IMPOSSI-BLE TO KNOW HOW TO PACE OUR-SELVES.

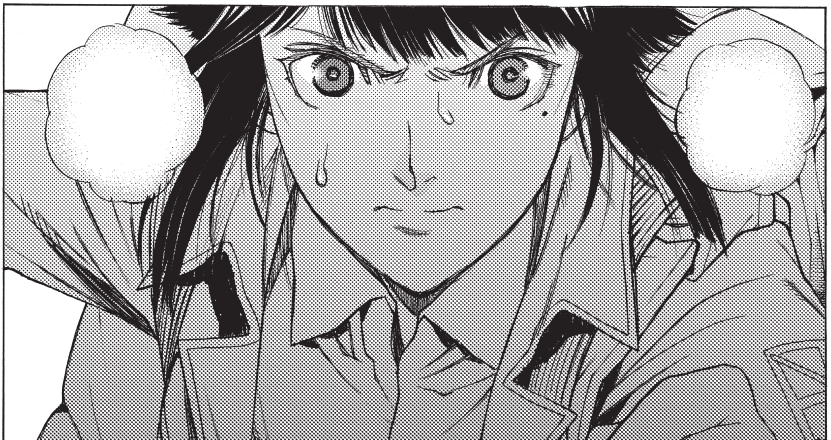
AND THOSE WERE ALL SIMPLE HIKES.
HUFF!


DOING OKAY, ROSA?



I NEED TO SHOW THEM THAT MEN AND WOMEN BELONG IN THE SURVEY CORPS!
I...I'M FINE!!





WHAT DO YOU THINK?
HOW ARE THE CANDIDATES I BROUGHT YOU?
MANY OF THEM ARE DIFFERENT FROM THE TYPICAL SURVEY CORPS BUILD.

EVEN WOMEN.

TOO SHORT...

SLENDER AND FRAGILE...

FROM NOW ON, WE'LL BE USING A DIFFERENT SET OF MUSCLES.

LARGE SOLDIERS AND THEIR BULKY BUILDS WILL ONLY MAKE THAT HARDER.

ACCORDING TO OUR PLAN, THE NEXT GENERATION OF THE SURVEY CORPS ***MUST*** BE CAPABLE OF USING THE DEVICE.

ARE YOU GOING TO BE THE CAPTAIN WHO CAN'T USE THE TOOL OF THE SOLDIERS HE COMMANDS?

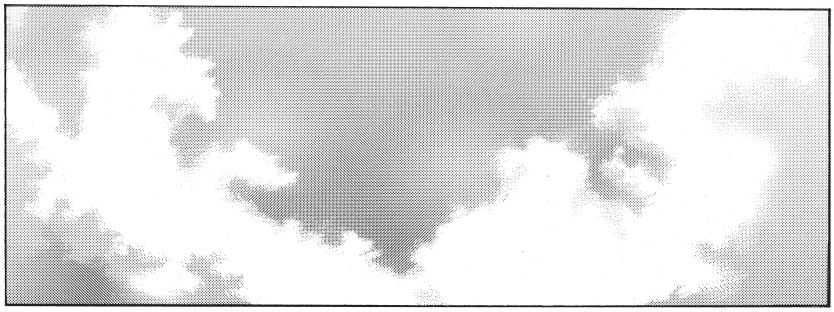
WHAT ABOUT YOU, CARLO?

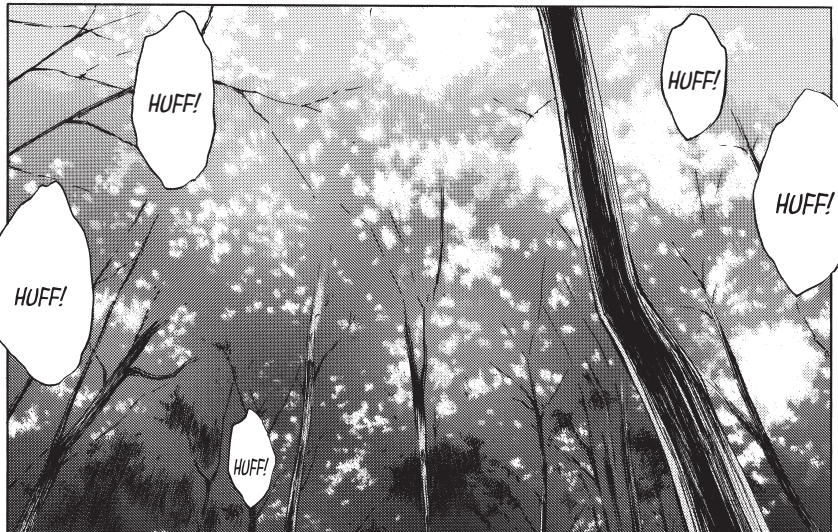
AND THAT'S WHY NO ONE WAS ABLE TO MASTER THE OLD DEVICE 15 YEARS AGO?

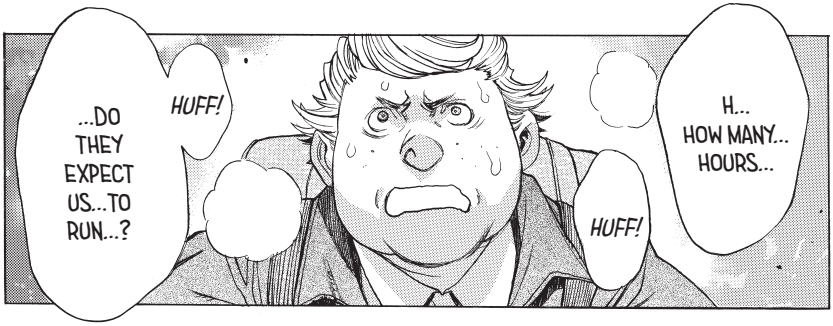
I HAD ENOUGH TIME TO SWITCH MY TRAINING REGIMEN AND GET INTO THE PROPER SHAPE.

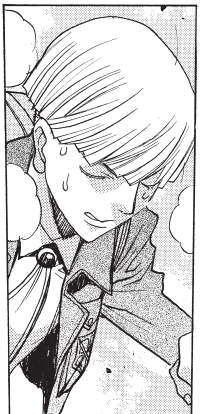
UNLIKE YOU, I STARTED THIS PROCESS YOUNG.

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE SOME SENIOR CITIZEN!




HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!


...DO THEY EXPECT US...TO RUN...?
HUFF!
H... HOW MANY... HOURS...
HUFF!



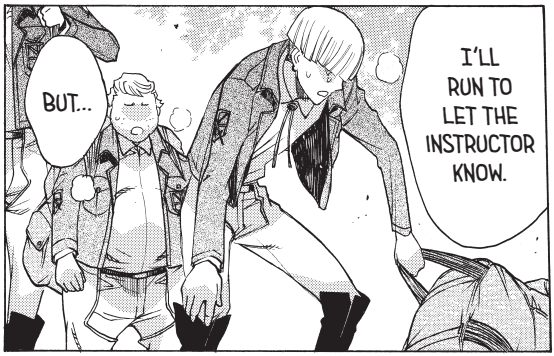
GULP..
ごく..
HUFF!
HUFF!
...BUT WITHOUT KNOWING HOW FAR IT IS TO OUR DESTINATION, I CAN'T WASTE THE WATER... DAMN!
I WISH I COULD DRINK MY FILL...
?!
THUMP
ドサッ!!

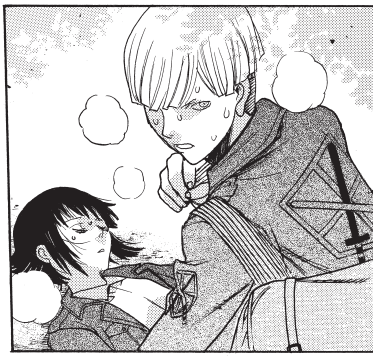
ROSA !!
ROSA, GET UP!

ROSA!
H...HEY, IS SHE OKAY?!
ROSA?!
SHE'S JUST PASSED OUT, THAT'S ALL.
BUT SHE COULD BE SUFFERING FROM DEHYDRATION...
WE NEED TO TAKE HER BACK TO SEE THE DOCTOR.

HOW CAN WE CARRY ROSA BACK?
EVEN WALKING BACK TO THE TRAINING GROUNDS WILL TAKE TWO HOURS...

B-BUT...

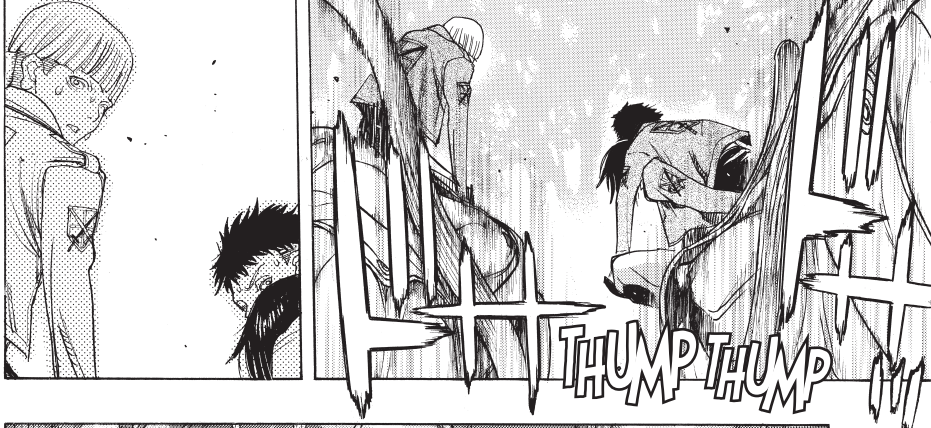

BUT...
I'LL RUN TO LET THE INSTRUCTOR KNOW.



...ARE YOU SURE ?
HUP!

THAT'LL MAKE IT QUICKER– WE CAN MEET IN THE MIDDLE.
THEN I'LL CARRY ROSA AND WALK AFTER YOU.

IT WAS A STRAIGHT PATH, REMEMBER?
THERE'S NO WAY WE'RE GOING TO MISS EACH OTHER!
THAT WASN'T WHAT I WAS WORRIED ABOUT...
OH.
DO YOU SUPPOSE... WE'RE FAILING THIS TEST ALREADY?


THUMP THUMP

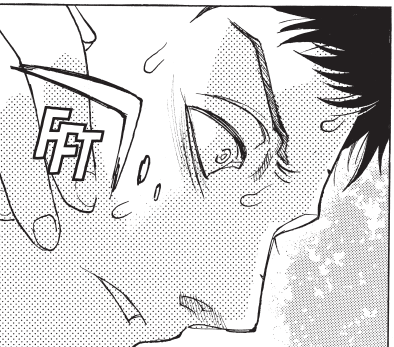
I HOPE SHE CAN FORGIVE US.

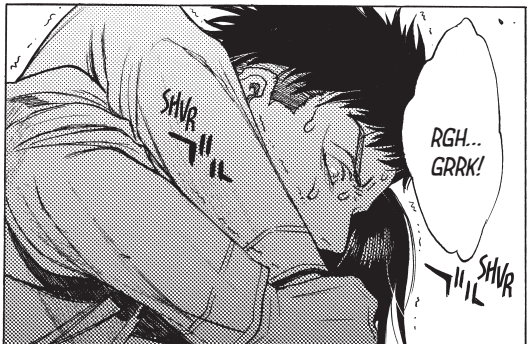
WELL, GREAT. ROSA'S GONNA YELL AT **ALL** OF US NOW.

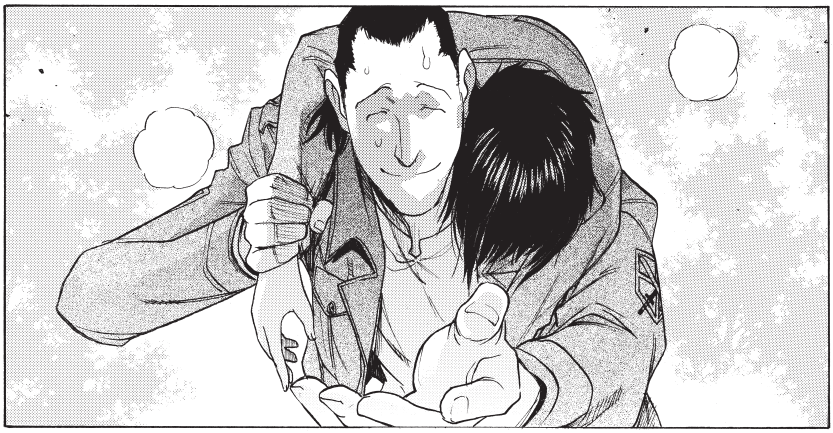
GURP
OKAY, LET'S GO!
MMPH !!!
TUG

DAMN... THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE...
WHY?
WAIT... WHAT?

RATTLE
SHIT!
WHY CAN'T I CARRY ROSA?
RATTLE

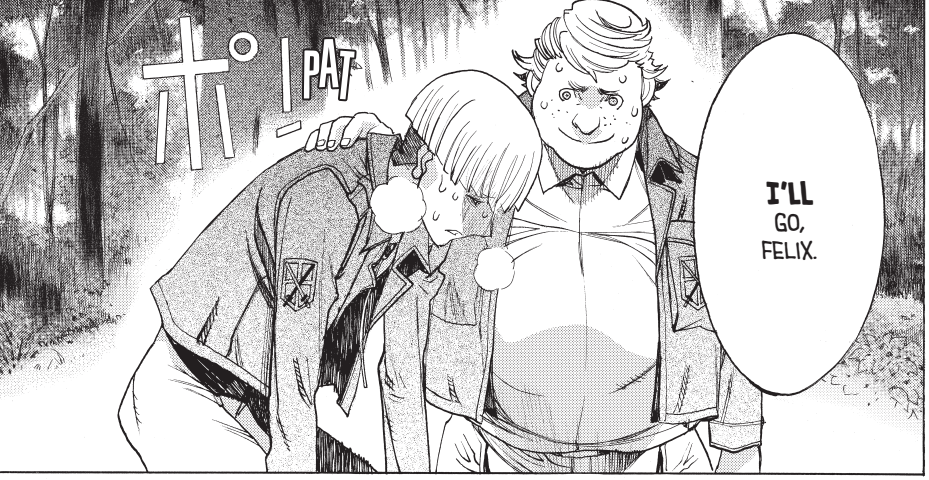

FFT

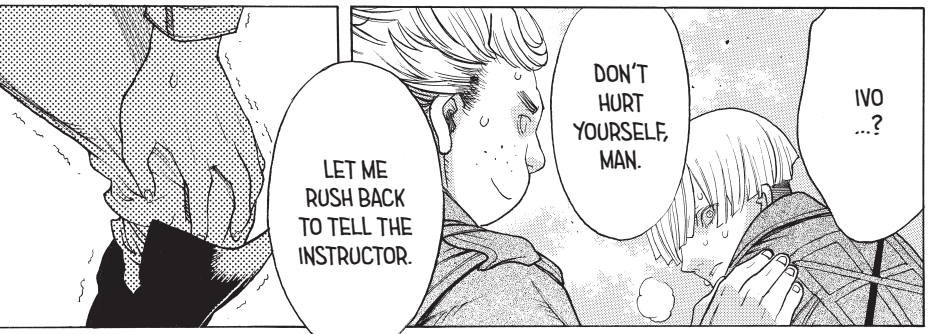

SHVR
RGH... GRRK!
SHVR

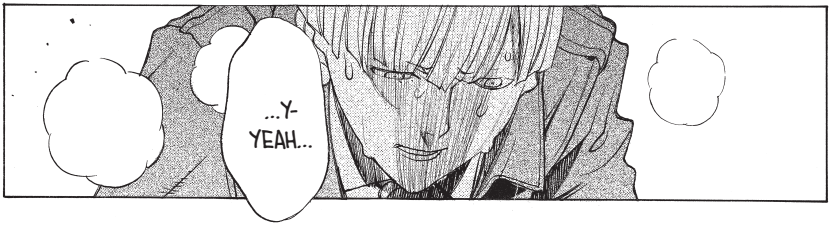


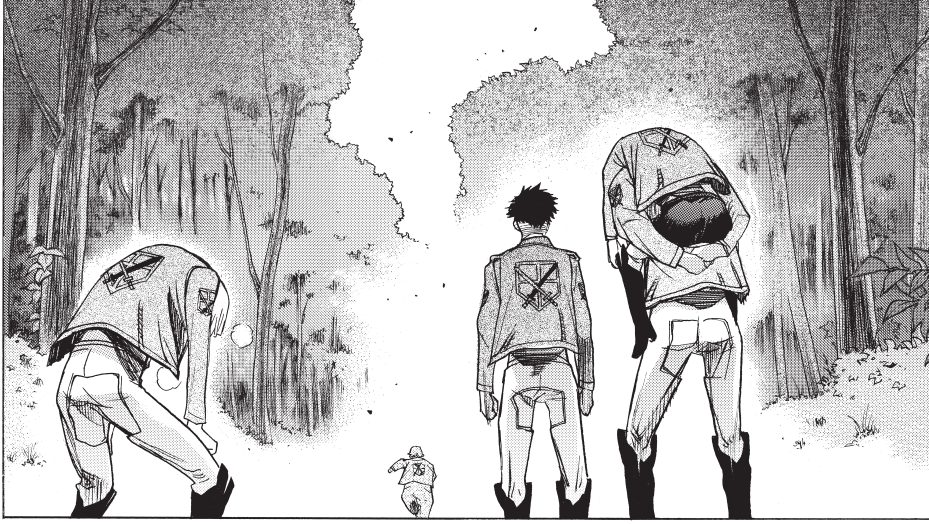
ALL RIGHT, HERE I GO.

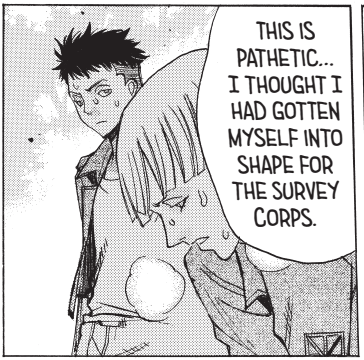
UH... TH-THANKS...

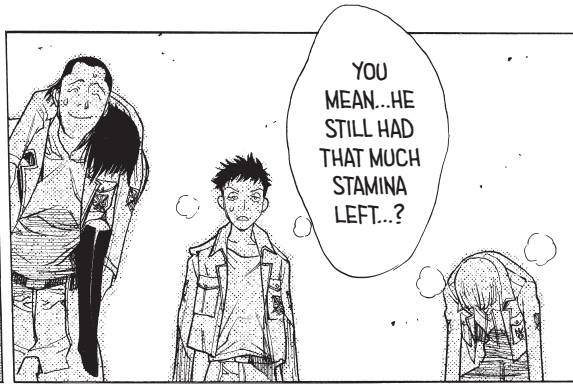

ポ
PAT
I'LL GO, FELIX.

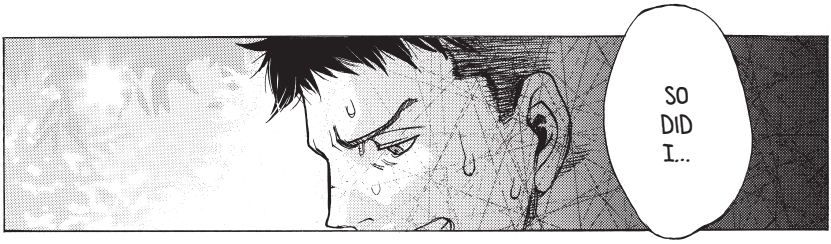

IVO ...?
DON'T HURT YOURSELF, MAN.
LET ME RUSH BACK TO TELL THE INSTRUCTOR.

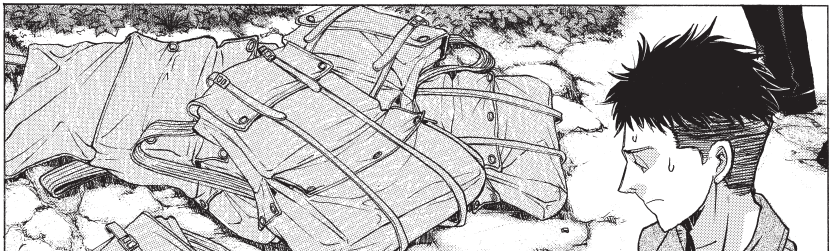

...Y-YEAH...

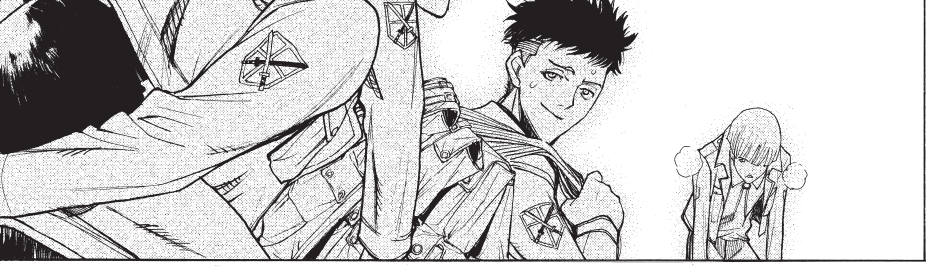



THIS IS PATHETIC... I THOUGHT I HAD GOTTEN MYSELF INTO SHAPE FOR THE SURVEY CORPS.

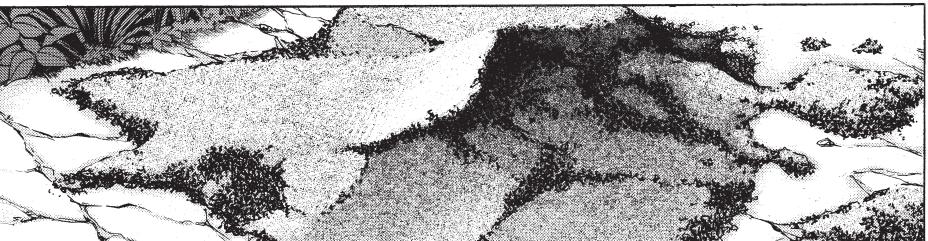

YOU MEAN...HE STILL HAD THAT MUCH STAMINA LEFT...?

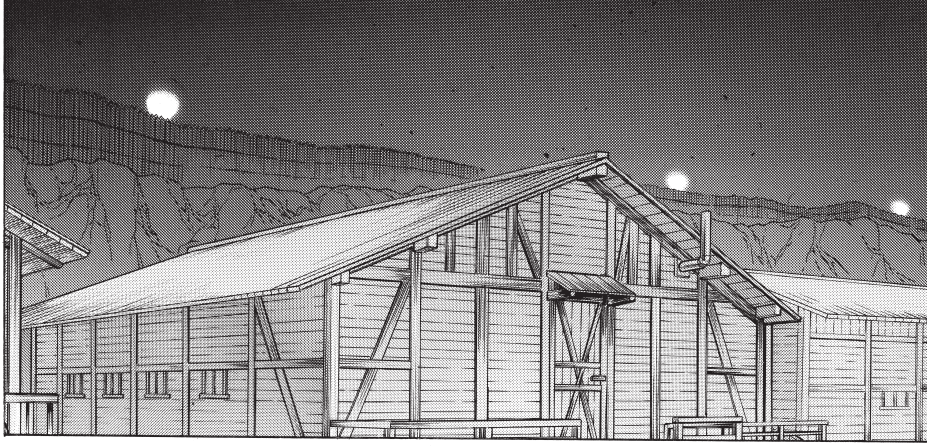

SO DID I...

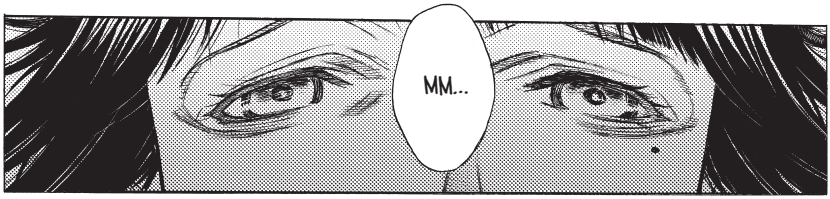


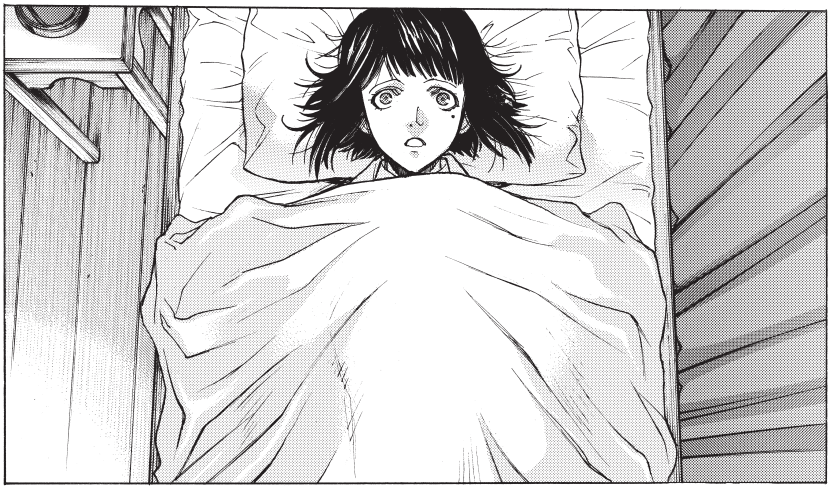


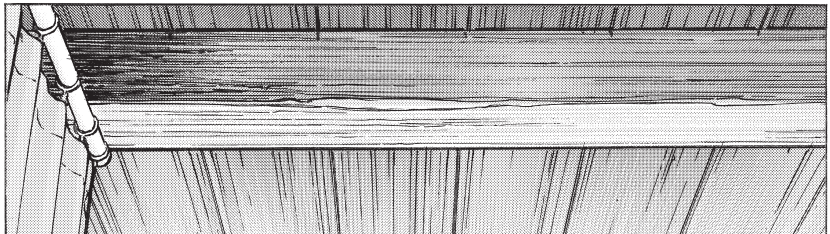
WE CAN APOLOGIZE TO ROSA TOGETHER.

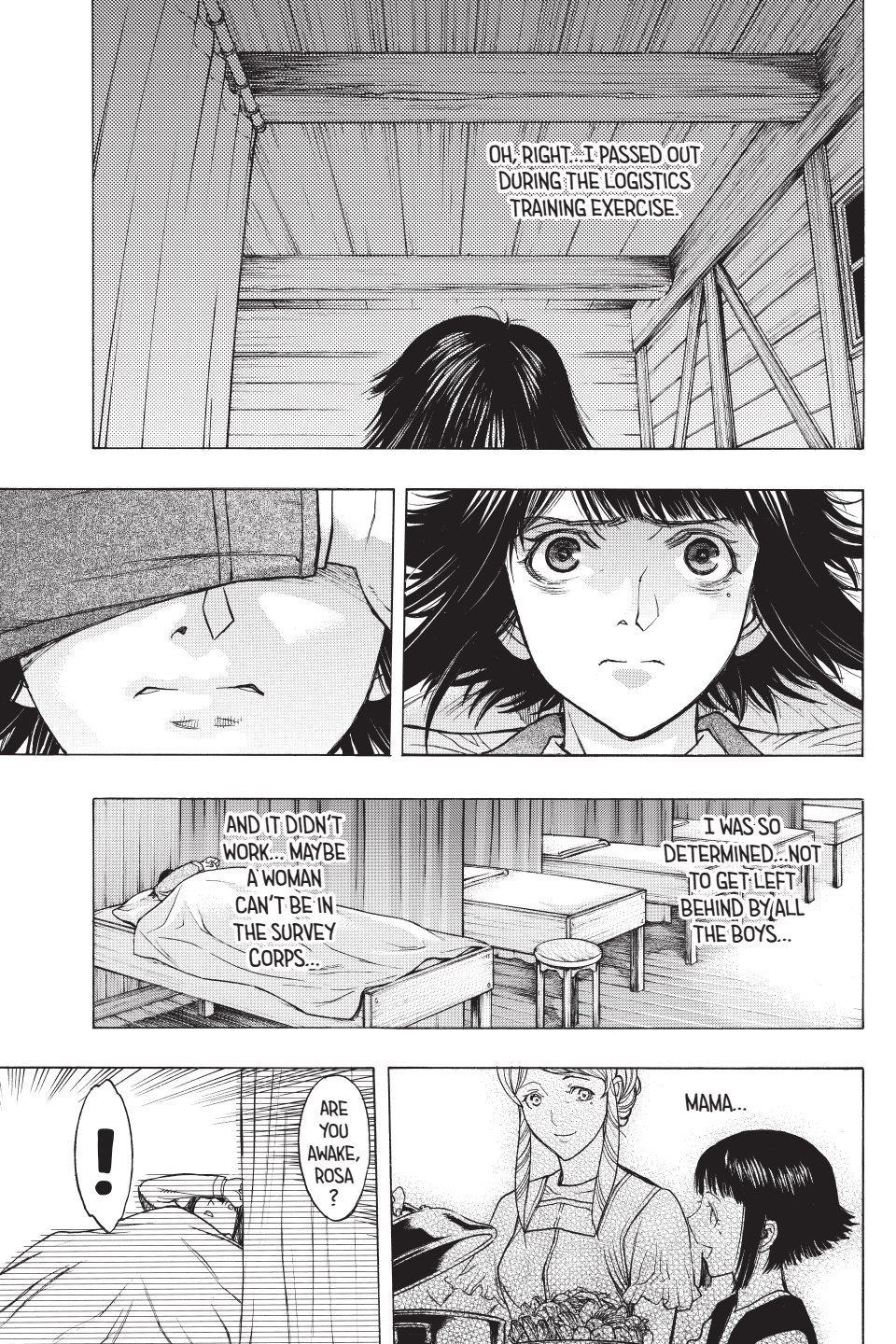




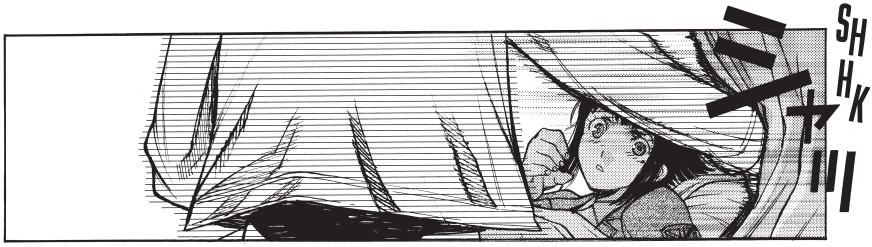

MM...



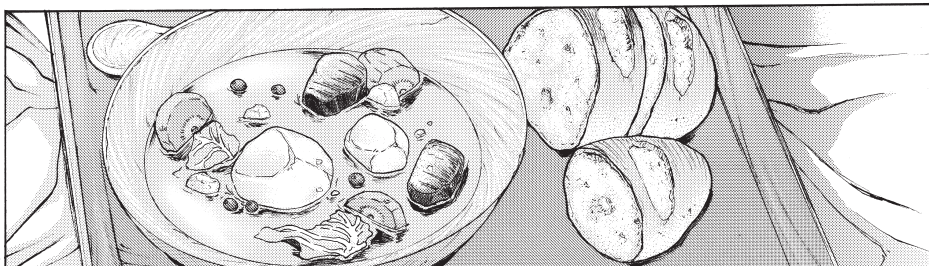


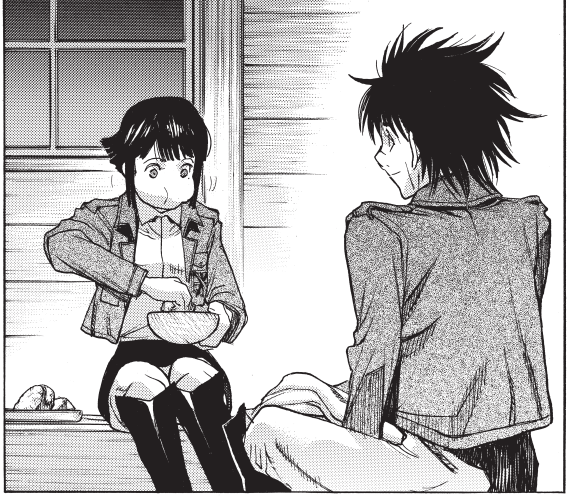

OH, RIGHT...I PASSED OUT DURING THE LOGISTICS TRAINING EXERCISE.
AND IT DIDN'T WORK... MAYBE A WOMAN CAN'T BE IN THE SURVEY CORPS...
I WAS SO DETERMINED...NOT TO GET LEFT BEHIND BY ALL THE BOYS...
!
ARE YOU AWAKE, ROSA ?
MAMA...

OH...
Y-YES!!


SHHK
ミャッ!!

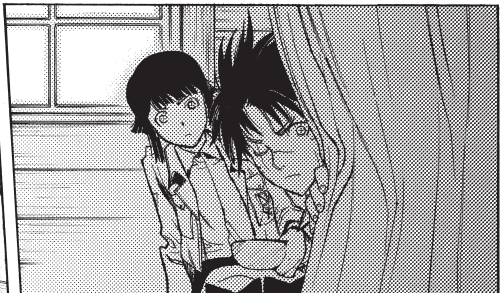
ARE YOU HUNGRY?

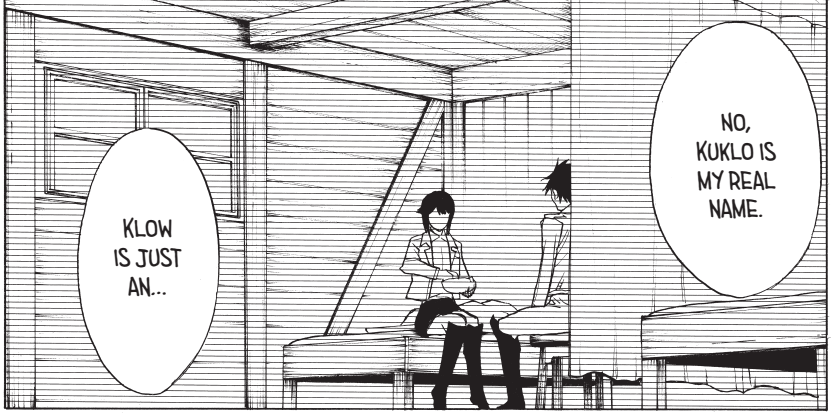


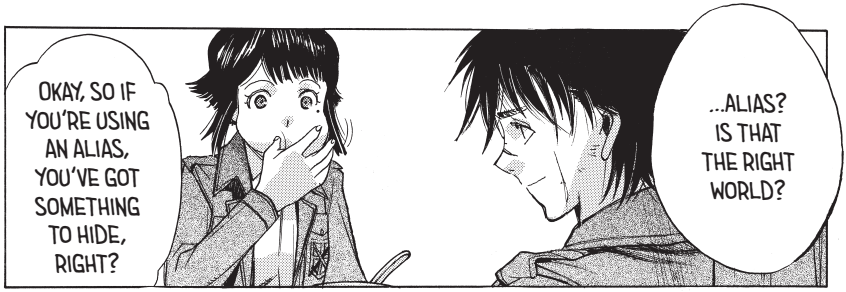


OH, RIGHT.
...!

...YOUR REAL NAME?
IS KLOW...




KLOW IS JUST AN...
NO, KUKLO IS MY REAL NAME.


OKAY, SO IF YOU'RE USING AN ALIAS, YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO HIDE, RIGHT?
...ALIAS? IS THAT THE RIGHT WORLD?

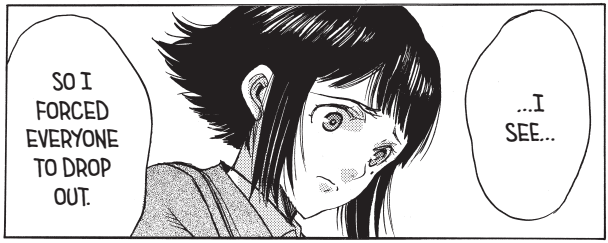
HIS REAL NAME IS CARDINA, AND HE'S JUST LIKE ME.
AND THE OTHER GUY WITH INSTRUCTOR JORGE... CARL?
TECHNICALLY, I AM SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD.

OH.

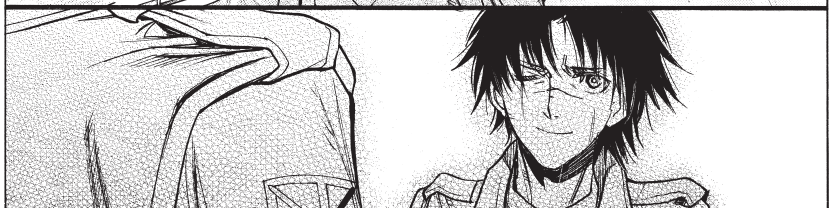
I... GUESS ?
?
WOW! SO YOU'RE WORKING WITH JORGE THE HERO TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST SOME SHADY CONSPIRACY!

THEY RAN INTO CARDINA ALONG THE WAY—HE WAS HEADING UP THE REAR TO COLLECT ANYONE WHO COULDN'T CONTINUE.
YEAH... HUGO AND THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS CARRIED YOU BACK.

?
THAT'S RIGHT...I PASSED OUT DURING THE LOGISTICS EXERCISE, DIDN'T I?


...I SEE...
SO I FORCED EVERYONE TO DROP OUT.

AW, GEEZ...I REALLY SCREWED UP.
I'M ALL TALK...
I'M NOT FIT TO BE IN THE SURVEY CORPS.



HEY, KUKLO !!!

IT WAS ME WHO FAILED EVERYONE ELSE IN THE GROUP, RIGHT? SO DON'T DISQUALIFY ANYONE BUT ME!
WILL YOU EXPLAIN THINGS TO INSTRUCTOR JORGE? YOU'RE HIS ASSISTANT!

IT'S ALL RIGHT. NOBODY'S BEEN DISQUALIFIED BECAUSE OF THAT.
HUH?

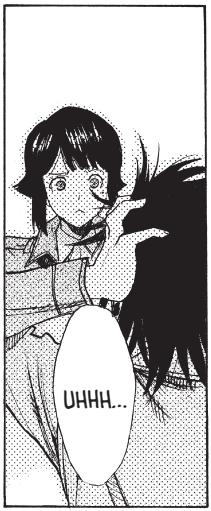
OH... I SEE.
YOU'RE FINE.
CAPTAIN CARLO SAID YOU'D BE JUDGED OVER A THREE-MONTH TRAINING PERIOD, REMEMBER?
YOU'VE ONLY JUST STARTED THE TEST.

IF YOU WANT TO GET IN, YOU NEED TO KEEP UP THROUGH THE ENTIRE SPAN. YOU WANT TO SHOW YOUR MOM YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECISION, DON'T YOU?
THE SPECIAL LESSONS FOR USING THE DEVICE WILL HAPPEN AFTER THAT.
THE TRAINING YOU DID TODAY, WHICH IS MEANT TO RAISE YOUR STAMINA AND WILLPOWER, WILL LAST FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH.

OKAY!!

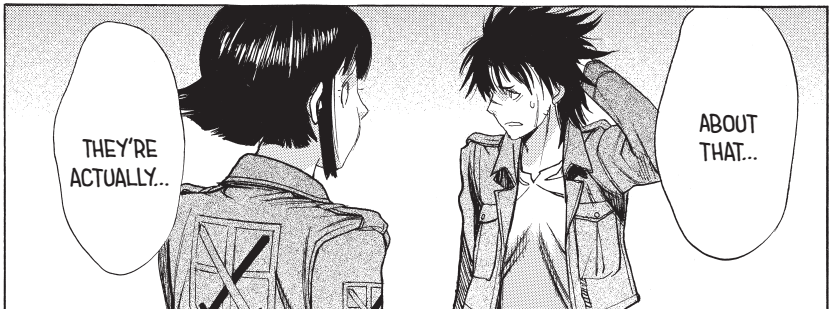
GET YOUR STRENGTH BACK!
THE FIRST THING YOU NEED TO DO IS EAT UP!

YEAH.
YOU SAVED MY LIFE BACK THEN.
BOY, THE TABLES SURE HAVE TURNED SINCE I NURSED YOU BACK TO HEALTH IN THAT HUNTER'S SHACK.


UHHH...

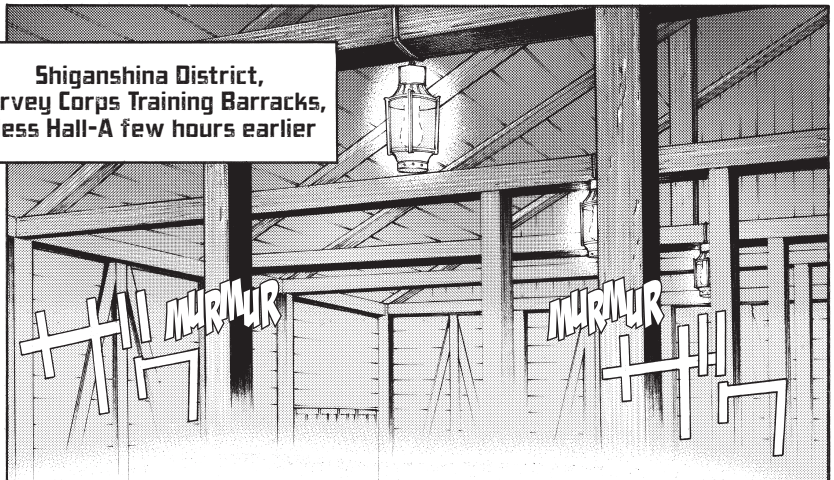
?

I'M ALL BETTER NOW, SO ONCE I'M DONE EATING, I NEED TO GO APOLOGIZE TO THEM.
ARE KAI AND THE OTHERS IN THE BARRACKS ?


THEY'RE ACTUALLY...
ABOUT THAT...

HUH ?!!
...IN THE GUARDHOUSE.

WELLLL...
IS THAT BECAUSE OF ME?!
WHAT?! HUH? WHY?!


Shiganshina District, Survey Corps Training Barracks, Mess Hall-A few hours earlier
MURMUR
MURMUR

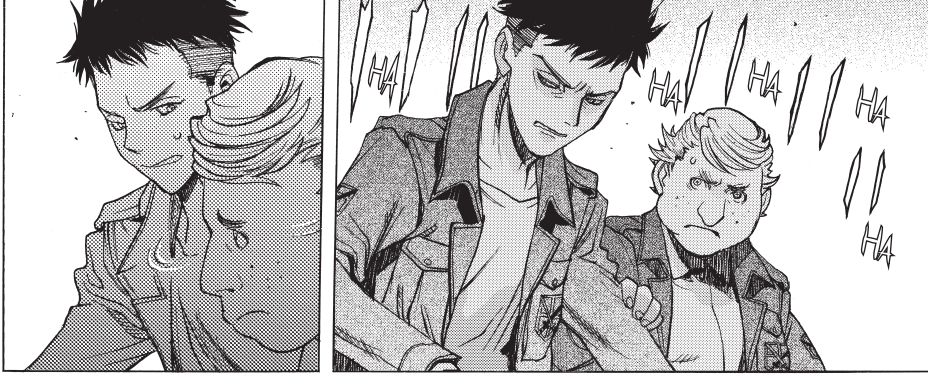
MAN, THAT EXERCISE TODAY WAS ROUGH.
I'M SO TIRED, I DON'T EVEN HAVE AN APPETITE.
YOU'D BETTER **FORCE** YOURSELF TO EAT, OR YOU WON'T LAST TOMORROW.
OH YEAH, YOU COULDN'T STAND ANYMORE DURING THE EXERCISE, AND HAD TO GET PICKED UP BY THE RESCUE TEAM, HUH?
OH, SHUT UP. YOU PUKED, IF I RECALL.

HA HA HA! I FIGURED SHE WOULD!
SHE WAS THE FIRST ONE TO PASS OUT...
HEY, DID YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT IDIOT GIRL WHO THOUGHT SHE COULD ENROLL FOR THE SURVEY CORPS?

BWAHA HA HA HA HA
IT'S A WASTE OF TIME. WOMEN AREN'T MEANT TO BE SOLDIERS.
EXACTLY!!
I MEAN, IF YOU'RE GONNA SIGN UP, YOU HAFTA SHOW **WHY** YOU'RE WORTHY OF IT.

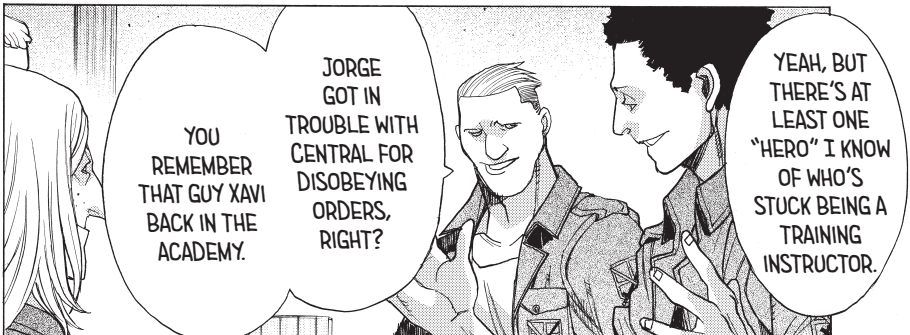
HA HA HA HA

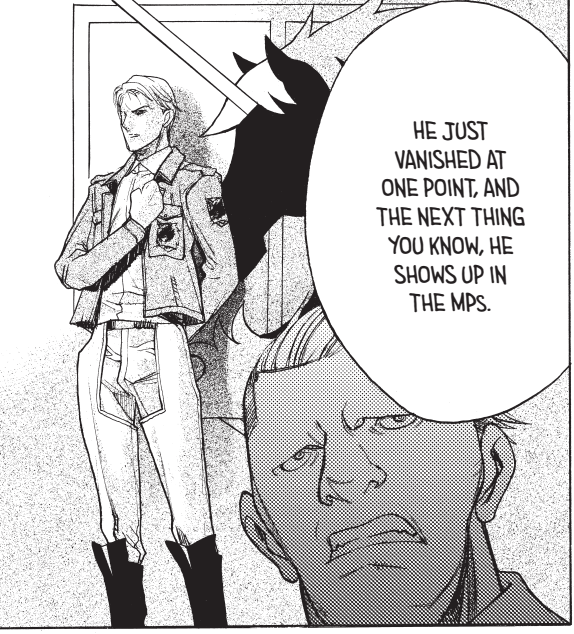
I MEAN, DO YOU PEOPLE REALLY THINK YOU'RE CUT OUT FOR THIS?!
HYA HA HA HA HA
AND THOSE GUYS SHE HANGS OUT WITH? A BEAN POLE, A SHRIMP, A BUTTERBALL...


HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

ONCE I KNOCK DOWN ONE TITAN, I'M PUTTING IN FOR A TRANSFER TO THE MILITARY POLICE.
HELL NO!!
YEAH, IT'S FUNNY...BUT ARE YOU GUYS SERIOUS ABOUT STICKING WITH THE SURVEY CORPS?

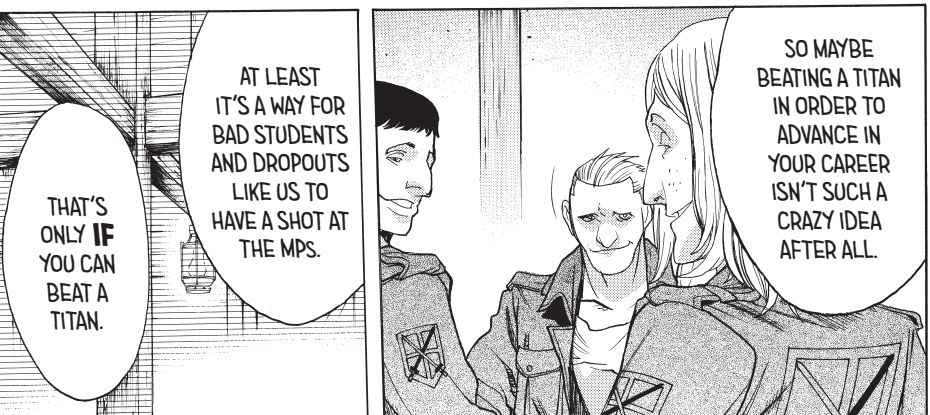
ONCE PEOPLE SEE YOU AS A HERO, YOU'RE BASICALLY GUARANTEED TO SHOOT UP THE RANKS OVER THERE.


YOU REMEMBER THAT GUY XAVI BACK IN THE ACADEMY.
JORGE GOT IN TROUBLE WITH CENTRAL FOR DISOBEYING ORDERS, RIGHT?
YEAH, BUT THERE'S AT LEAST ONE "HERO" I KNOW OF WHO'S STUCK BEING A TRAINING INSTRUCTOR.

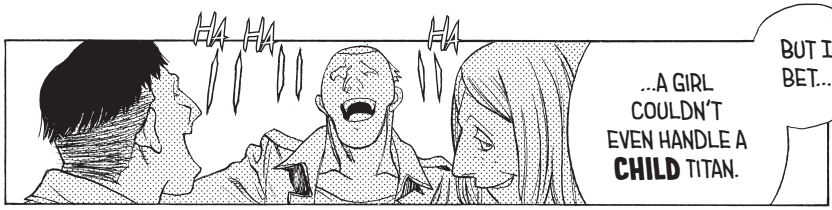

HE JUST VANISHED AT ONE POINT, AND THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW, HE SHOWS UP IN THE MPS.

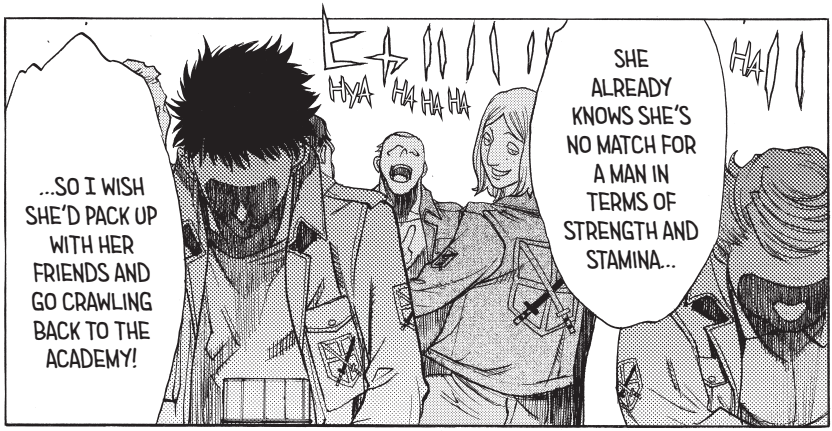
OH, YEAH! THE GUY WHO KEPT TALKING NONSENSE ABOUT HOW HE BEAT SOME "TITAN'S SON" OR WHAT-EVER?
WELL, IT TURNS OUT THAT MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN NON-SENSE.

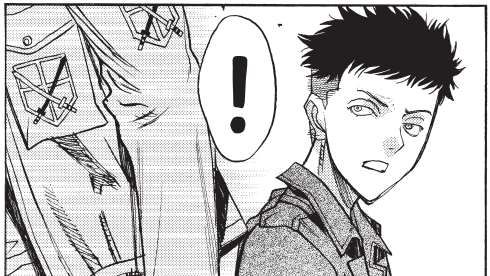
THE GUY I WAS BUNKING WITH HAD TO DELIVER THE MESSAGE FOR XAVI TO REPORT TO THE ACADEMY DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, SO THE INFO IS SOLID.
THE CAPTAIN OF SHIGANSHINA DISTRICT ASKED FOR HIM DIRECTLY.
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?! HE WAS ONLY IN HIS FIRST YEAR!

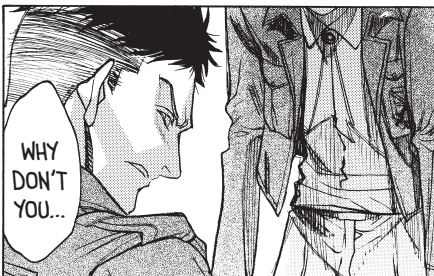

THAT'S ONLY IF YOU CAN BEAT A TITAN.
AT LEAST IT'S A WAY FOR BAD STUDENTS AND DROPOUTS LIKE US TO HAVE A SHOT AT THE MPS.
SO MAYBE BEATING A TITAN IN ORDER TO ADVANCE IN YOUR CAREER ISN'T SUCH A CRAZY IDEA AFTER ALL.

YA HA HA HA
AND AVOID ALL THE ADULTS !!
BWA HA HA HA
HA
SO DO LIKE XAVI, AND FIND A KID TITAN TO BEAT UP!

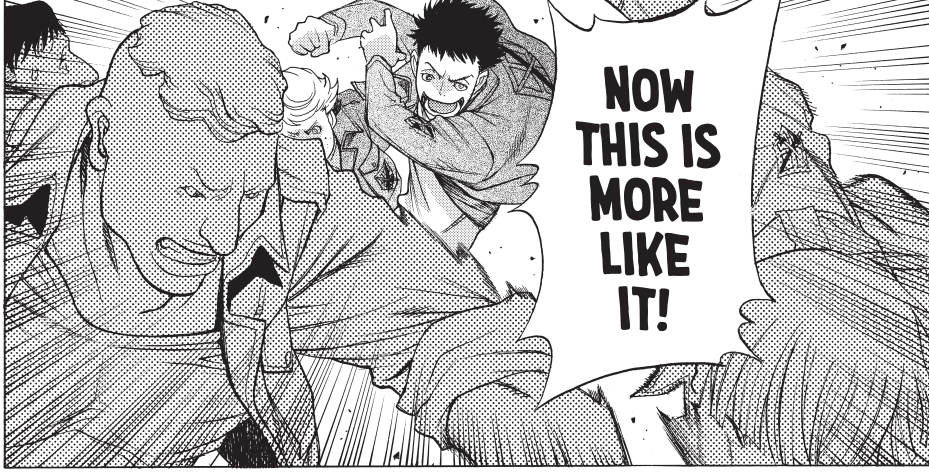

HA HA
HA
...A GIRL COULDN'T EVEN HANDLE A **CHILD** TITAN.
BUT I BET...

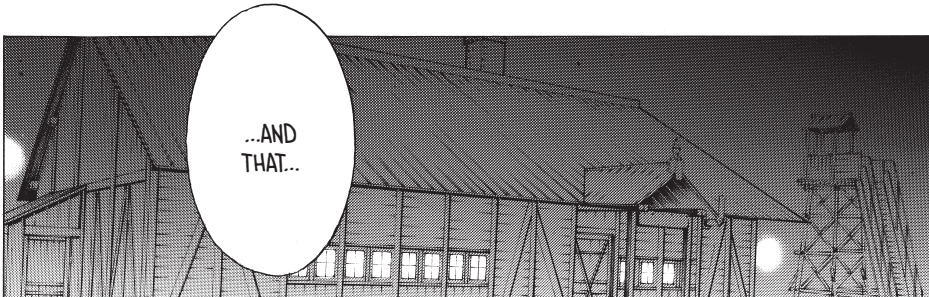

HYA HA HA HA
...SO I WISH SHE'D PACK UP WITH HER FRIENDS AND GO CRAWLING BACK TO THE ACADEMY!
SHE ALREADY KNOWS SHE'S NO MATCH FOR A MAN IN TERMS OF STRENGTH AND STAMINA...
HA


!

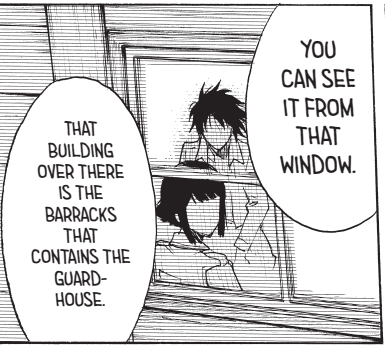

WHY DON'T YOU...

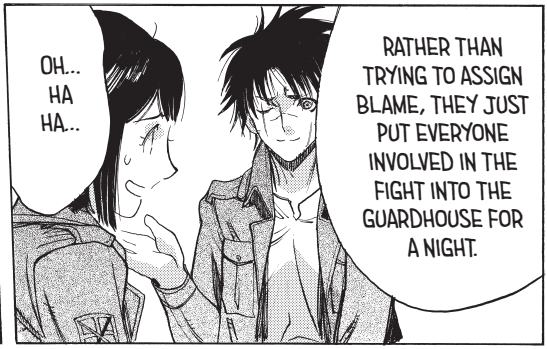
HUH?
THWAK
FW
HEY, ASS-HOLE!
UMMP


NOW THIS IS MORE LIKE IT!


...AND THAT...

...
...IS WHAT HAPPENED, ACCORDING TO THE STUDENTS WHO WERE PRESENT IN THE MESS HALL WITH THEM AT THE TIME.

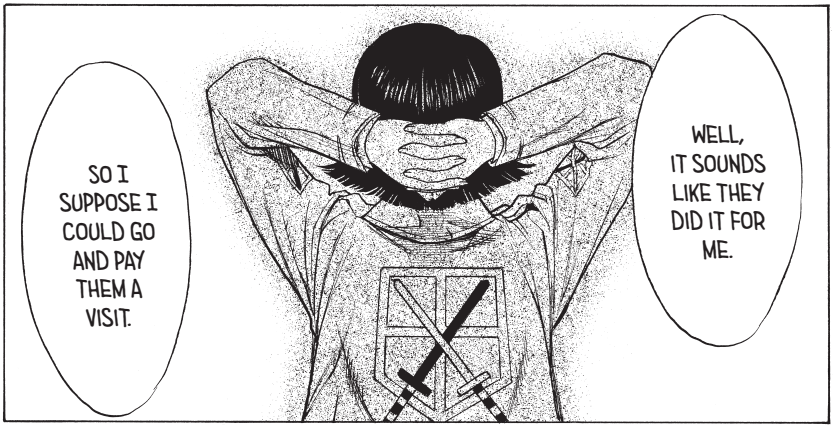

YOU CAN SEE IT FROM THAT WINDOW.
THAT BUILDING OVER THERE IS THE BARRACKS THAT CONTAINS THE GUARD-HOUSE.


OH... HA HA...
RATHER THAN TRYING TO ASSIGN BLAME, THEY JUST PUT EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THE FIGHT INTO THE GUARDHOUSE FOR A NIGHT.

HE ALWAYS ACTS SO CALM AND COLLECT-ED.
BUT... WHEN IT COMES TO HIS FRIENDS, HE'S VERY PASSION-ATE.

I HAVE TO ADMIT, OF ALL THE PEOPLE I WOULD'VE EXPECTED TO START THAT FIGHT...
...FELIX WASN'T THE FIRST THAT CAME TO MIND.

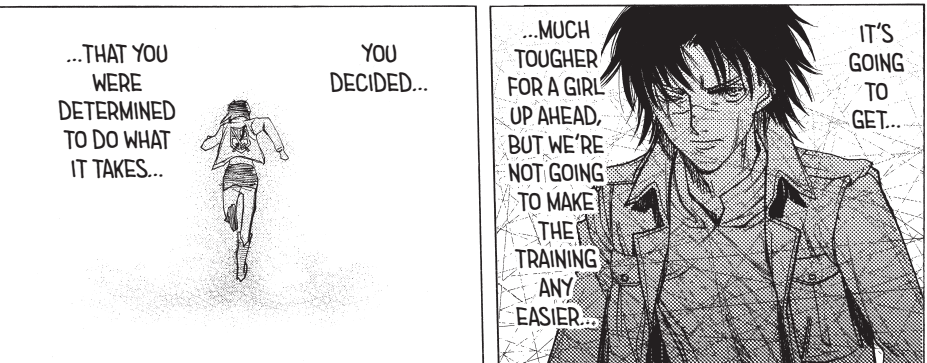
AWWWW, GEEZ.
WHAT AM I GONNA DO WITH THOSE GUYS?


WELL, IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY DID IT FOR ME.
SO I SUPPOSE I COULD GO AND PAY THEM A VISIT.

YOU SHOULD PACK SOME NICE WARM DRINKS FOR THEM, IN THAT CASE.
YOU CAN DO THAT ?!

THEY'LL BE ABLE TO TELL YOU WHICH ROOMS YOU'LL FIND THE BOYS IN, TOO.
IF YOU ASK AT THE MESS HALL THEY SHOULD FIX YOU SOMETHING.
IT'S PUNISHMENT, BUT IT'S NOT MEANT TO BE TORTURE.

GREAT, THANKS!!


...THAT YOU WERE DETERMINED TO DO WHAT IT TAKES...
YOU DECIDED...
...MUCH TOUGHER FOR A GIRL UP AHEAD, BUT WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE THE TRAINING ANY EASIER...
IT'S GOING TO GET...

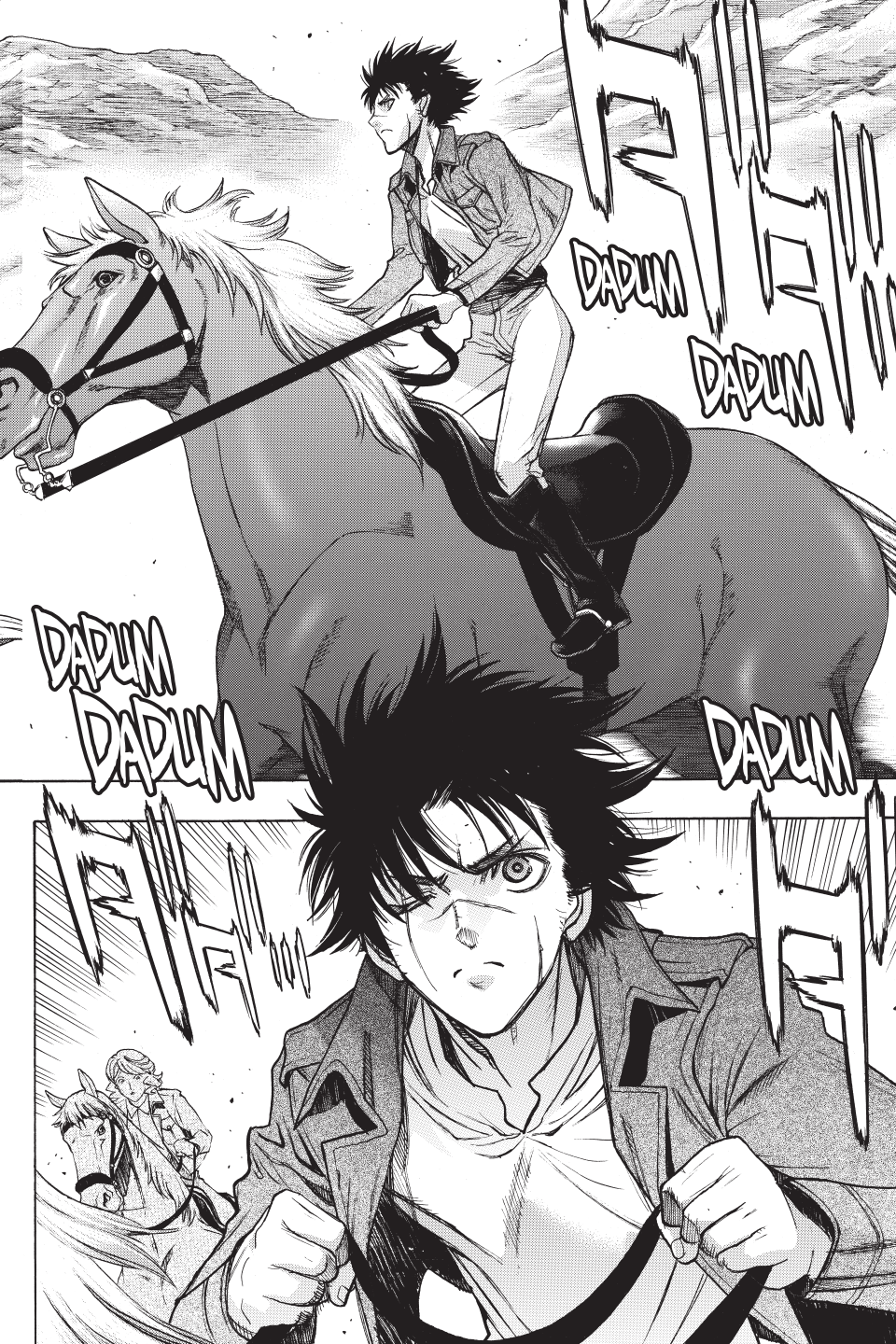
...TO FIGHT
THEM...

Chapter 43: Wellspring of the Restoration · End

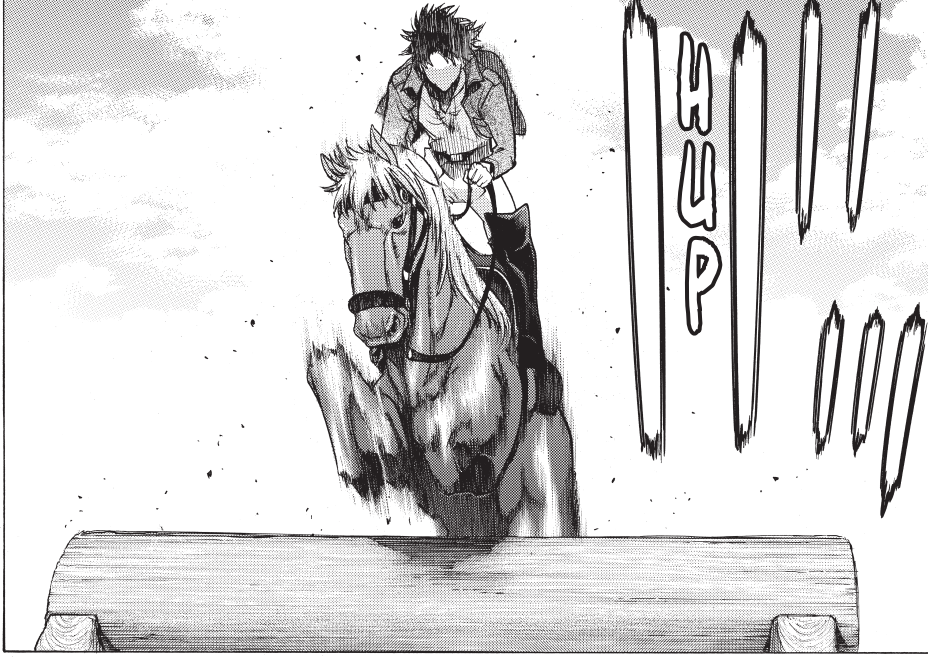
ATTACK ON TITAN

BEFORE THE FALL

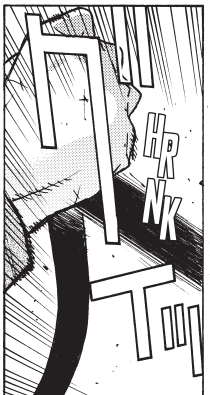
Chapter 44: Long-Awaited Weapon

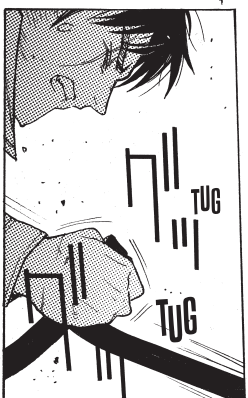

DADUM
DADUM
DADUM
DADUM
DADUM

DADUM DADUM
DADUM
DADUM

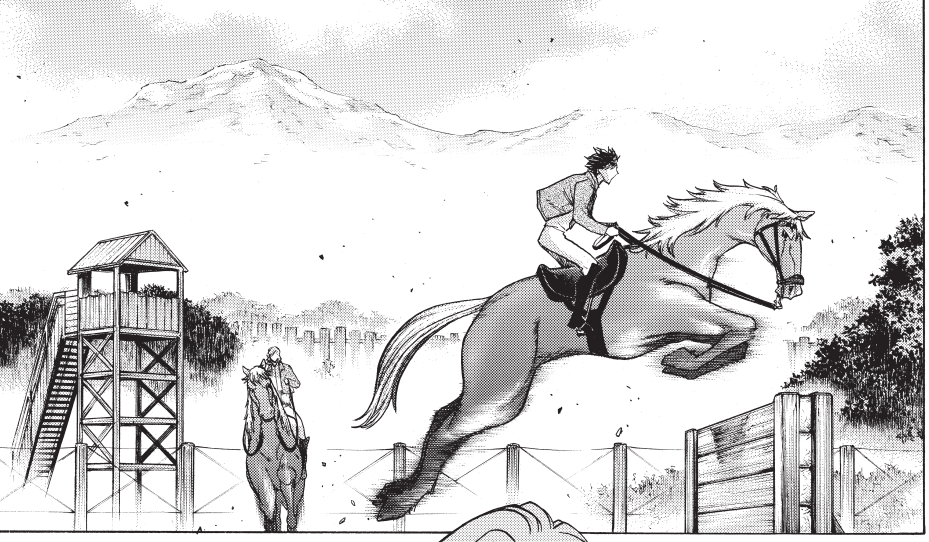

HUP

SPLAAA SH


HR
NK


TUG
TUG

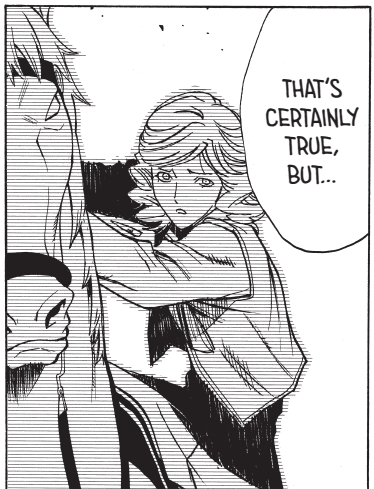
AAH ...
RRGH...
DADUM



I'D SAY YOU'RE REALLY GETTING THE HANG OF RIDING.

CARDINA...

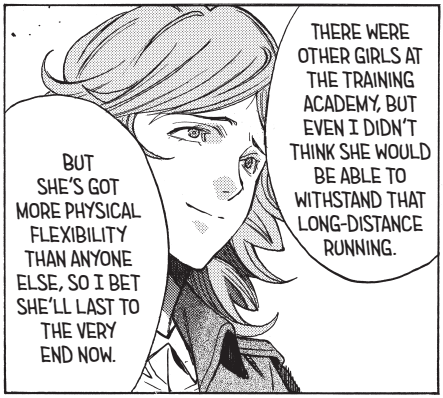
I'M NOT.
I HAVE SO MUCH TO LEARN.
IT STILL FEELS LIKE SHE'S JUST LETTING ME RIDE HER.

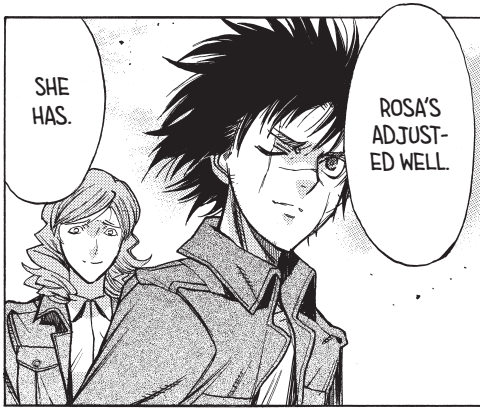

THAT'S CERTAINLY TRUE, BUT...

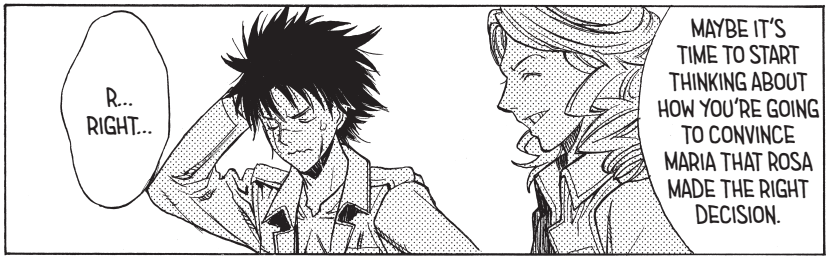
ALSO, I NEED TO BE ABLE TO RIDE WITHOUT MY HANDS ON THE REINS DURING BATTLE.

WELL, I'M SUPPOSED TO BE AN INSTRUCTION ASSISTANT—I CAN'T EMBARRASS MYSELF IN FRONT OF THE TRAINEES.
FOR SOMEONE WHO JUST STARTED LEARNING RECENTLY, YOUR PROGRESS HAS BEEN PHENOMENAL.
INDEED.
THEY SHOULD BE RETURNING FROM THE HILLS SOON.

WE'VE STOPPED LOSING PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RUN, SO WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TRANSFER TO THE NEXT EXERCISE TOMORROW, AS PLANNED.
SO, TODAY MARKS ONE MONTH OF LOGISTICS TRAINING...


THERE WERE OTHER GIRLS AT THE TRAINING ACADEMY, BUT EVEN I DIDN'T THINK SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND THAT LONG-DISTANCE RUNNING.
BUT SHE'S GOT MORE PHYSICAL FLEXIBILITY THAN ANYONE ELSE, SO I BET SHE'LL LAST TO THE VERY END NOW.


ROSA'S ADJUST-ED WELL.
SHE HAS.

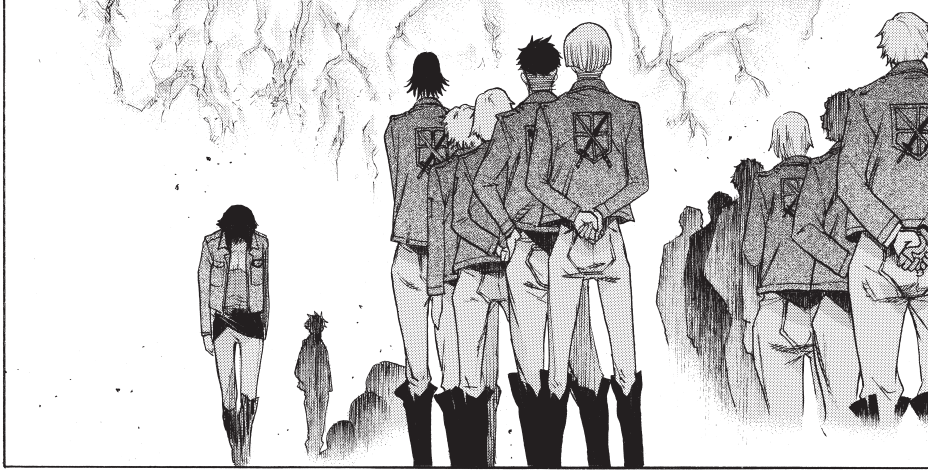

MAYBE IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT HOW YOU'RE GOING TO CONVINCE MARIA THAT ROSA MADE THE RIGHT DECISION.
R... RIGHT...

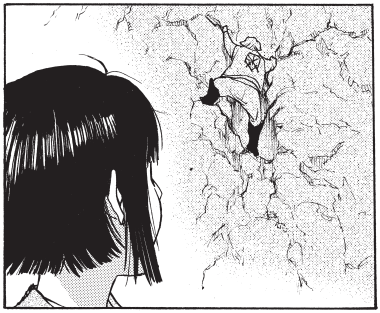
AND **THAT** SEEMS MUCH HARDER THAN LEARNING TO RIDE A HORSE.

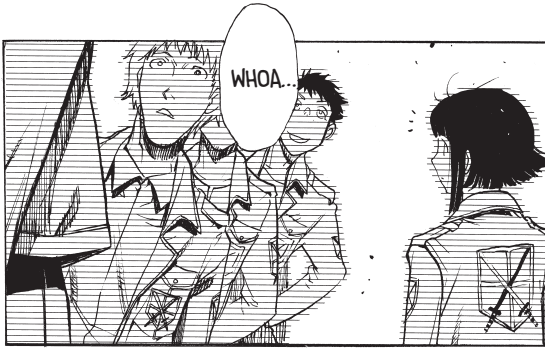
IN THE SECOND MONTH OF THE SURVEY CORPS TRAINING PERIOD, THE CADETS BEGAN A NEW CURRICULUM.
...BUNGEE-JUMPING, SCALING CLIFF WALLS, AND SO ON.
THIS ONE FEATURED A VARIETY OF GYMNASTIC EXERCISES...
SOME OF THESE EXERCISES WERE NEW AND CONFUSING TO THE CADETS.

GRAK
!
SHUK
ZSHK

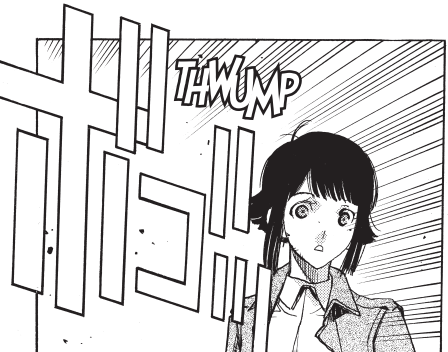
!!
AAH!
NEXT !!
PUOMP

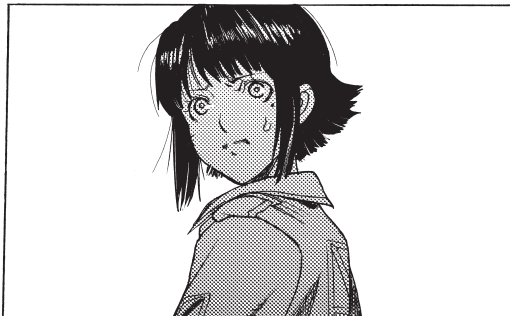




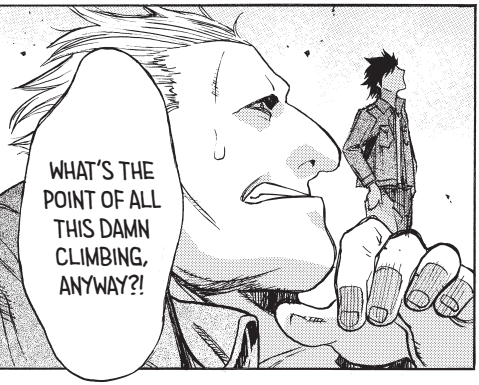

WHOA...

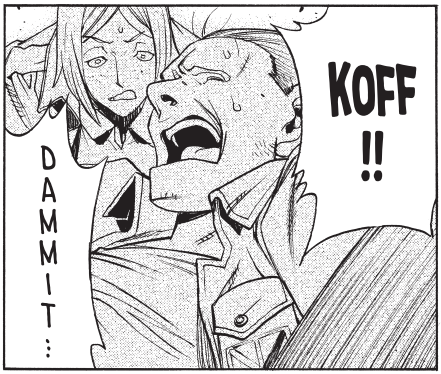
SHK
SHK

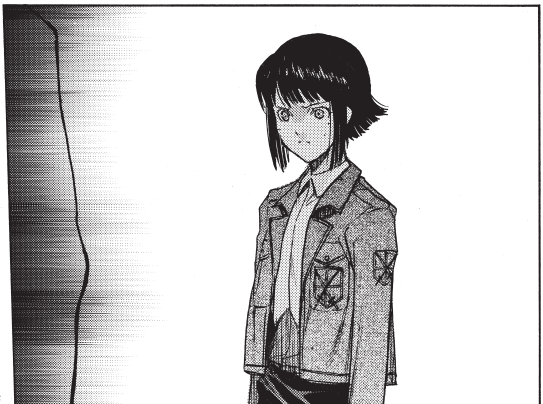

THWUMP

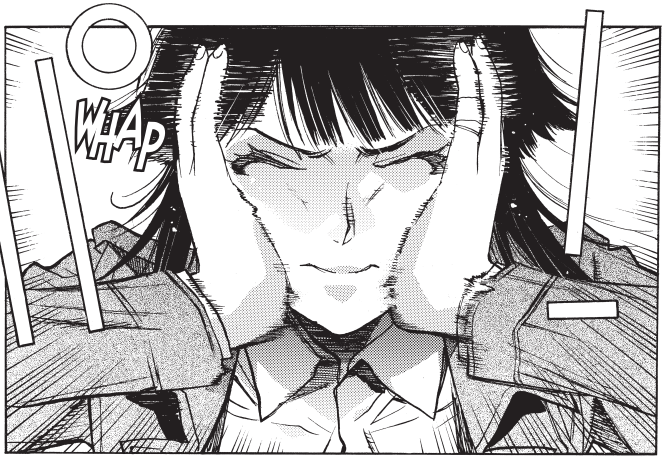


H-HEY! YOU OKAY, MAN?!

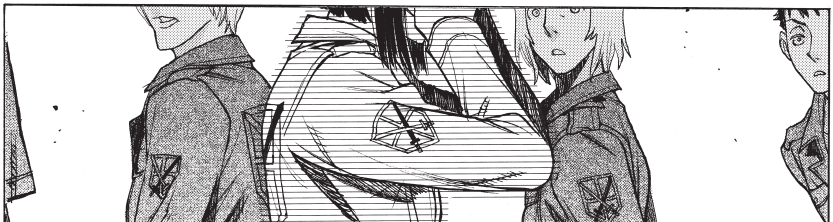






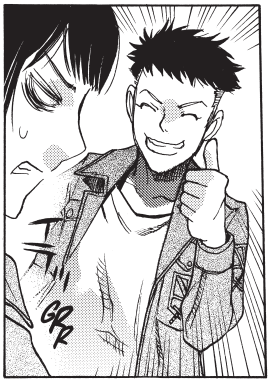

WHAP

SNIFF

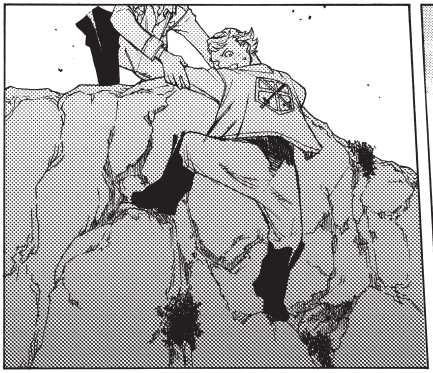


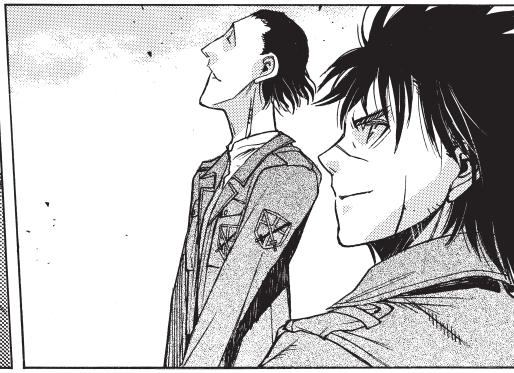
AND NOTHING WILL STOP ME!!!

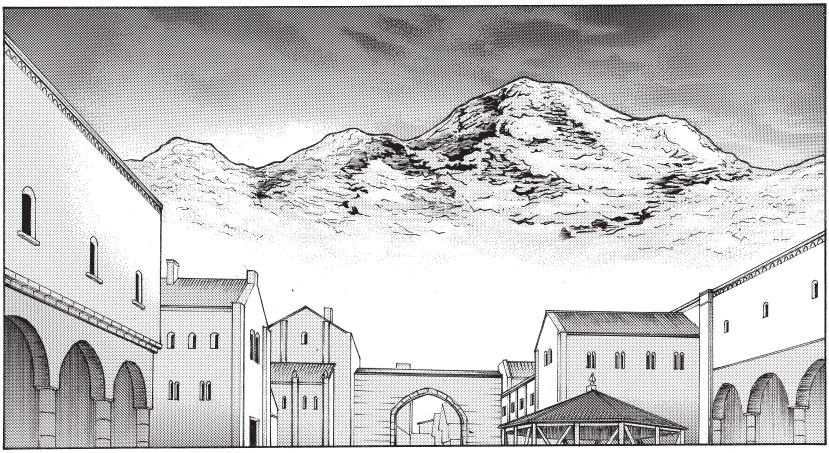
I'M GOING TO DO IT!!



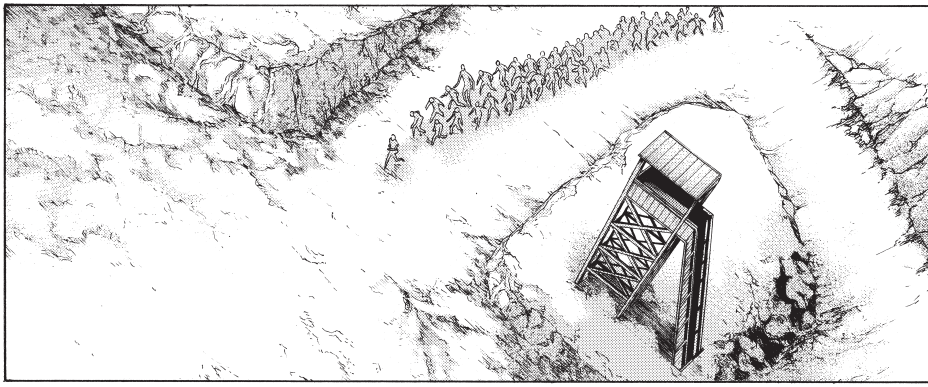
...WAS THAT FOR?

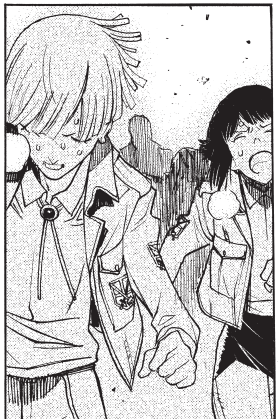


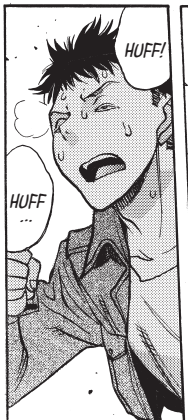




STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

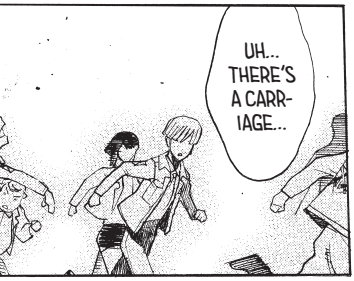


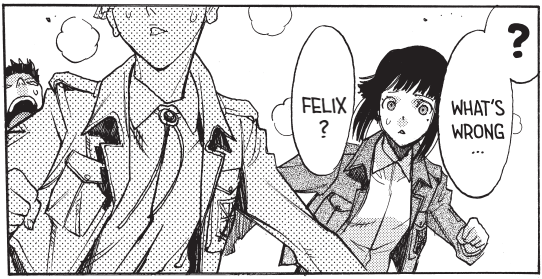


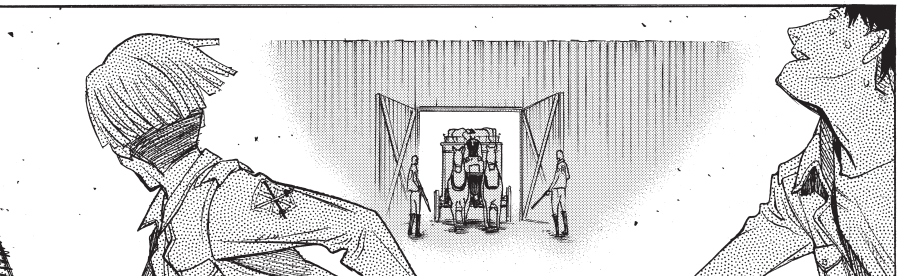

HUFF!
HUFF ...

THIS LAST RUN AFTER A DAY OF HARD TRAINING IS ALWAYS THE TOUGHEST, HUH?

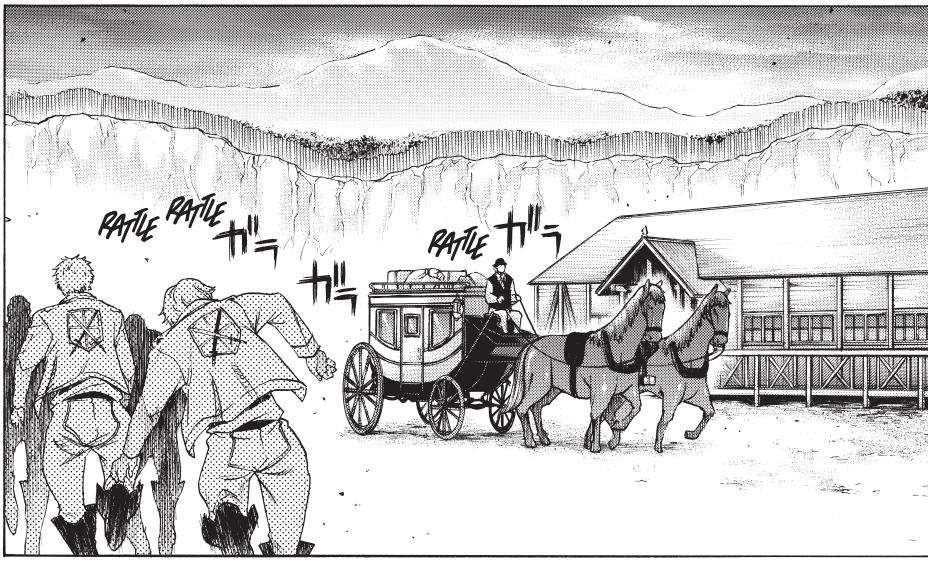
UGH! I DON'T WANNA SPEND ANOTHER NIGHT IN THE GUARD-HOUSE!
KUKLO WILL YELL AT YOU.
SHH! WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO TALK DURING TRAIN-ING!
HUFF!
IT STILL FEELS EASIER THAN THAT HELLISH LOGISTICS TRAINING.
HUFF!

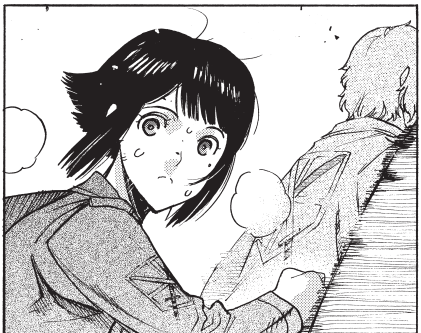

UH... THERE'S A CARR-IAGE...

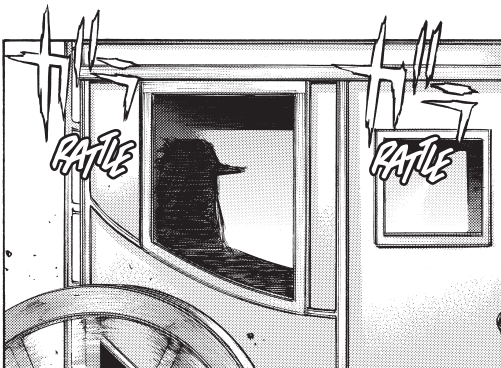

FELIX?
WHAT'S WRONG...
?



IT BETTER NOT BE A NEW DRILL SERGE-ANT.
WHO WOULD COME TO SUCH A REMOTE TRAINING AREA?
THAT'S UNUS-UAL...
EUGH!


RATTLE RATTLE ガラ
ガラ
RATTLE ガラ




RATTLE
RATTLE

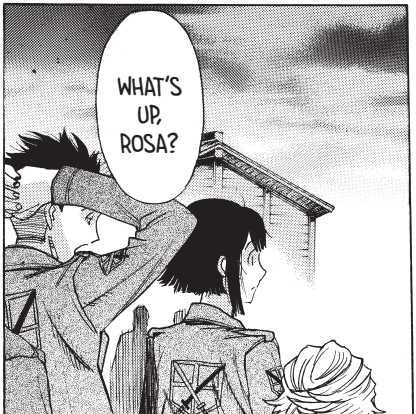
FALL IN !!
COMP-ANY, HALT !!
ZSH
ZSH

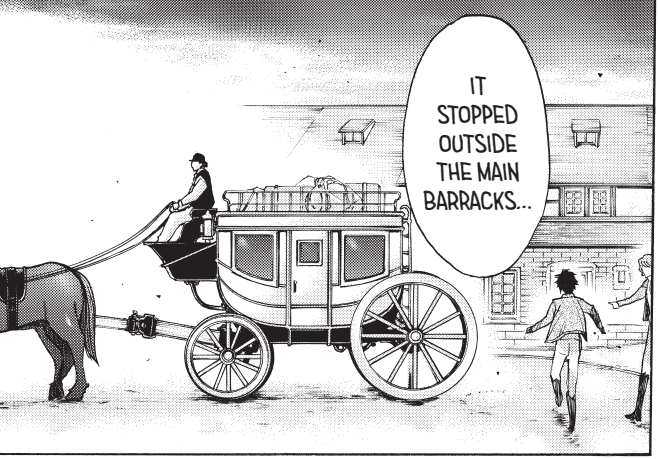
REST UP AND PREPARE YOURSELVES FOR TOMORROW'S ACTIVITIES !!

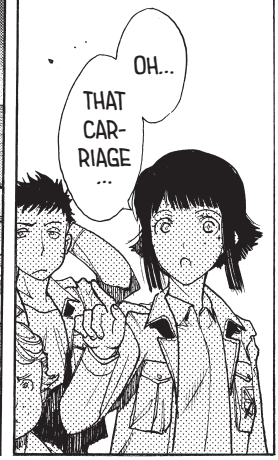
THAT WILL CONCLUDE THE DAY'S TRAINING !!!

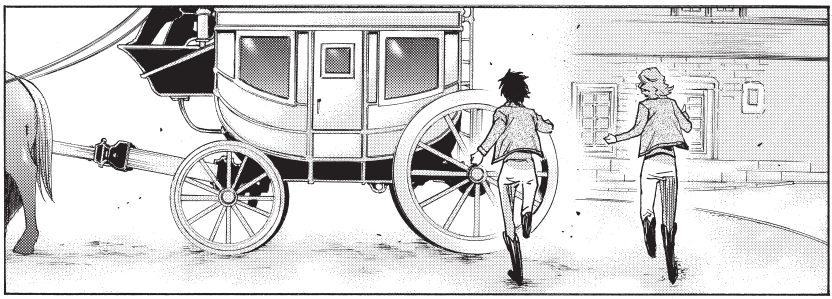
FALL OUT !!!

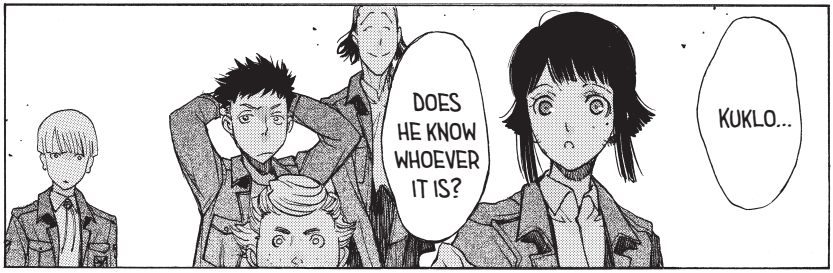
HUP

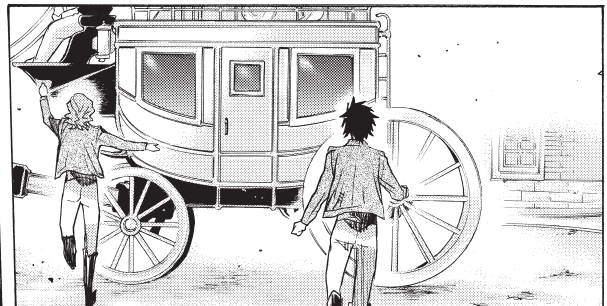


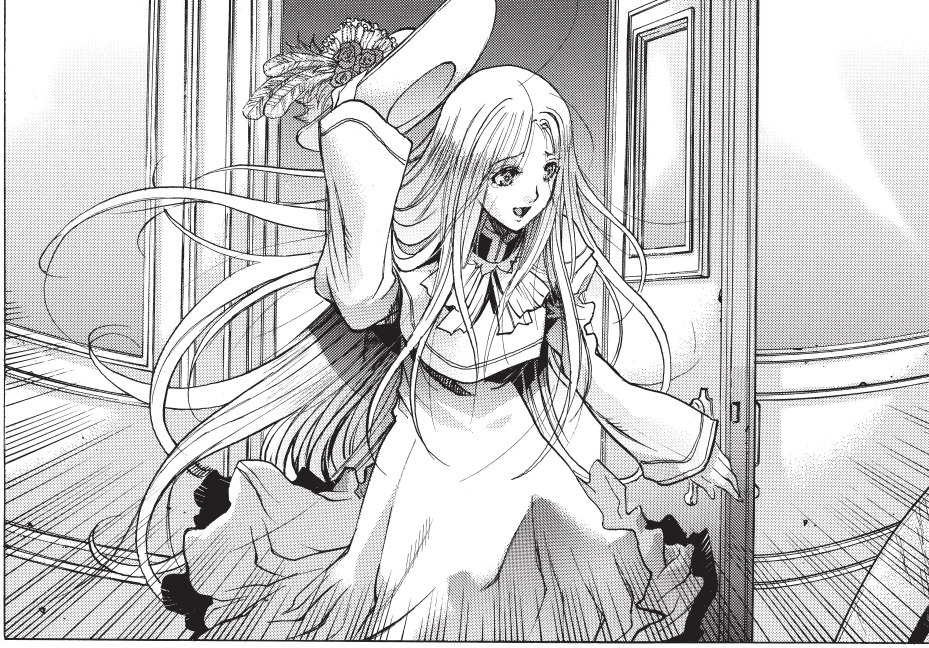

IT STOPPED OUTSIDE THE MAIN BARRACKS...


OH... THAT CAR-RIAGE ...

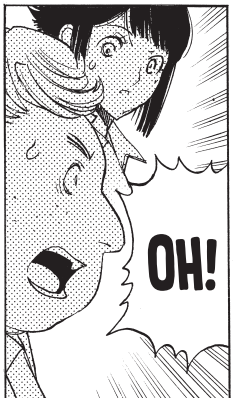


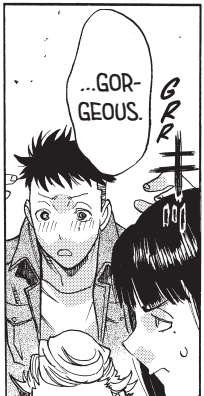

DOES HE KNOW WHOEVER IT IS?
KUKLO...

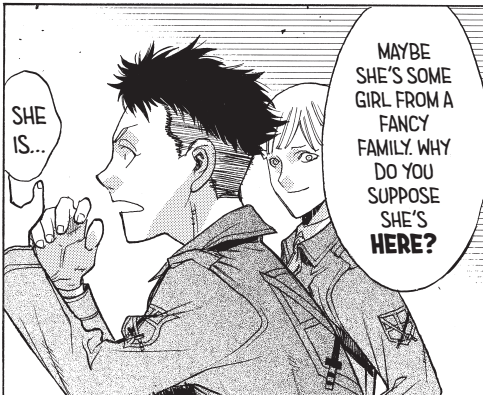


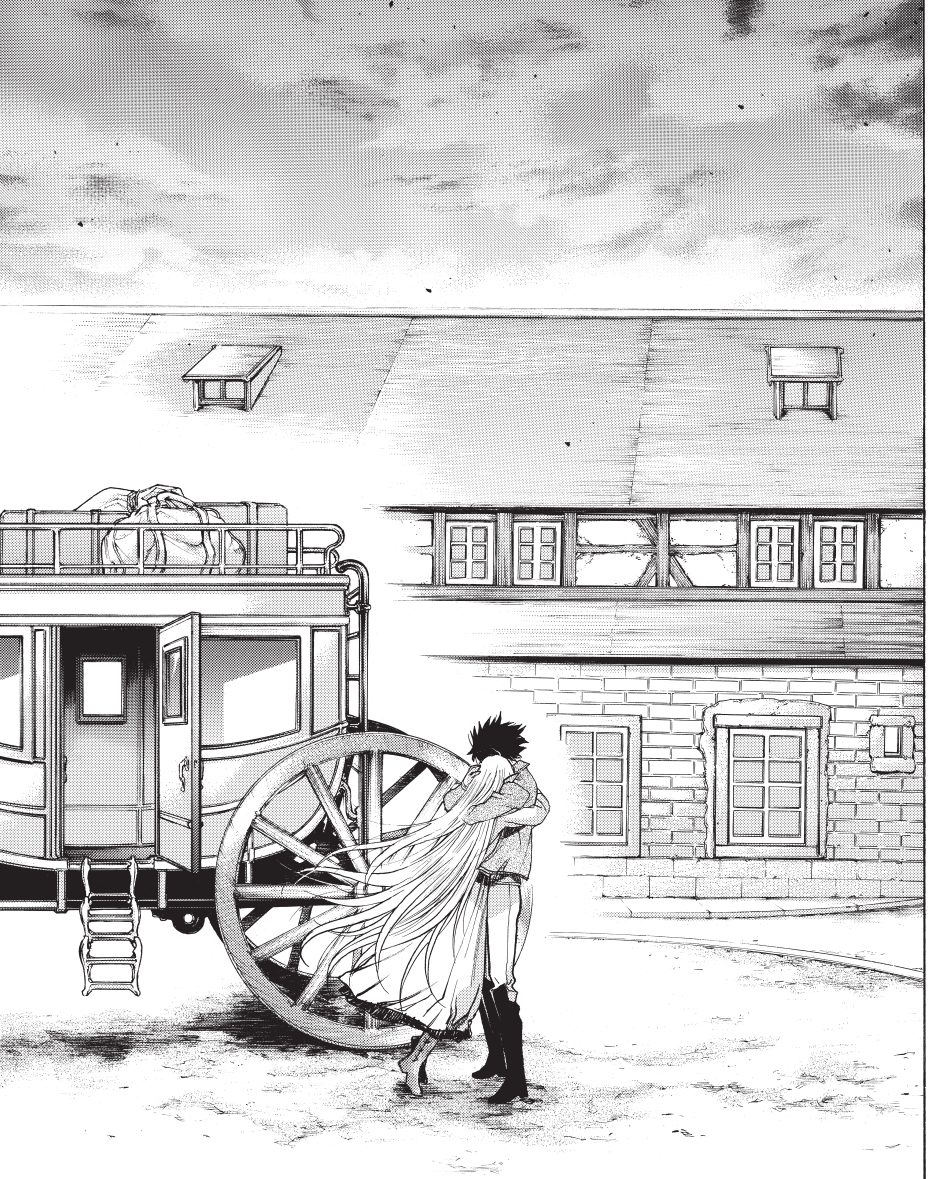


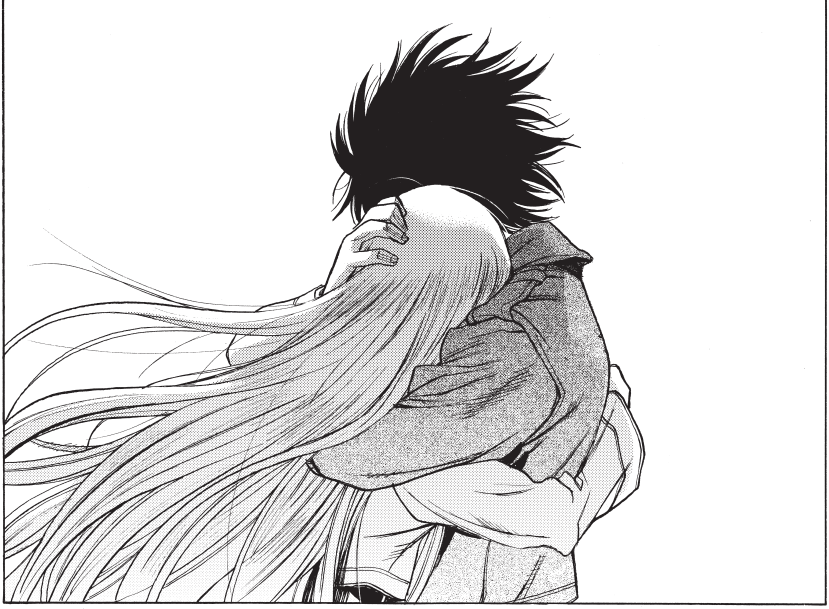
SHE'S CUUUTE!
WHOAAA...

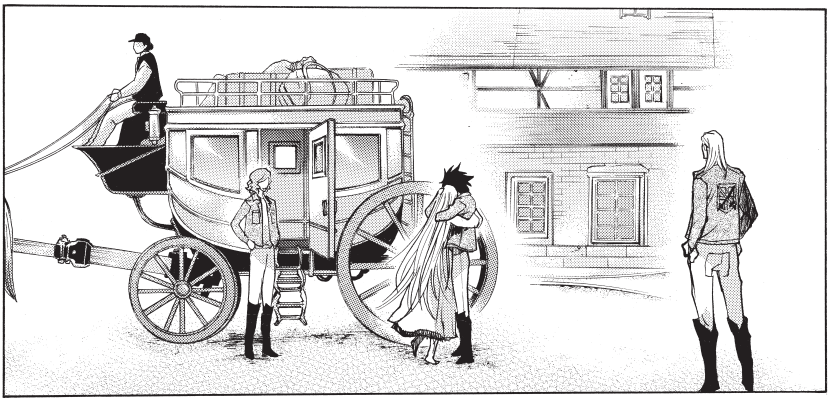

OH!

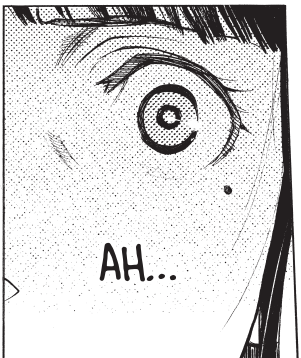

...GOR-GEOUS.
GRR

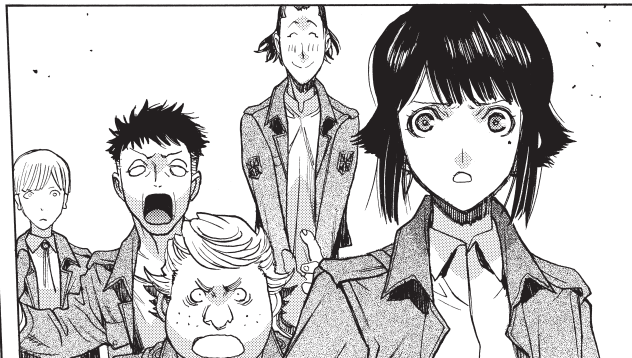

SHE IS...
MAYBE SHE'S SOME GIRL FROM A FANCY FAMILY. WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE SHE'S **HERE?**

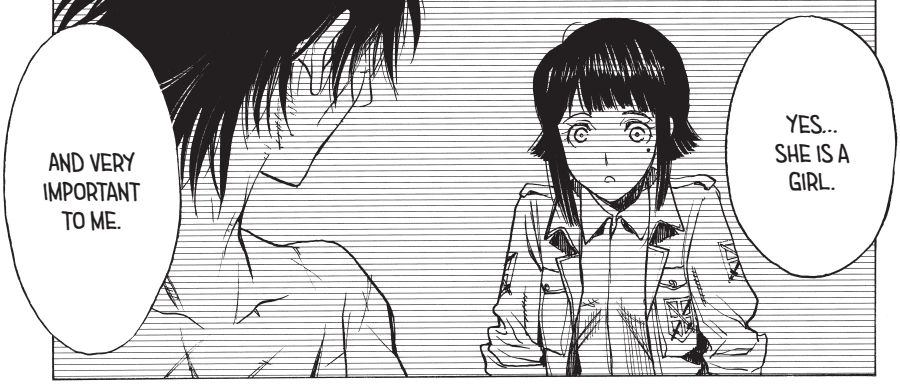


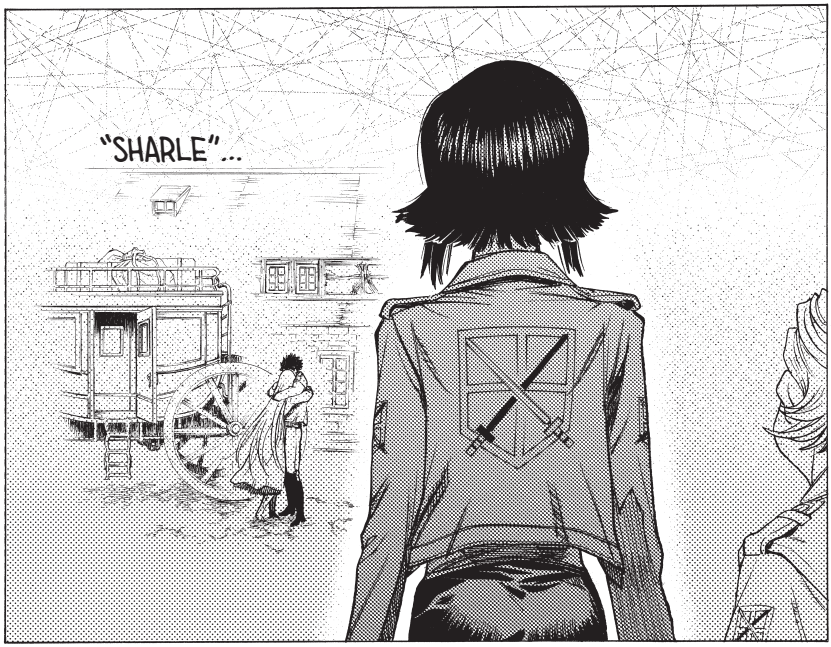


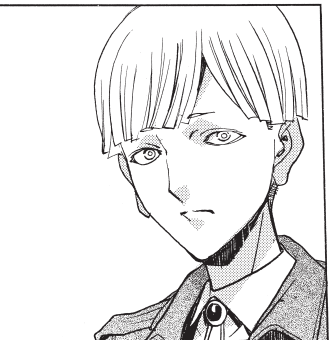



AH...

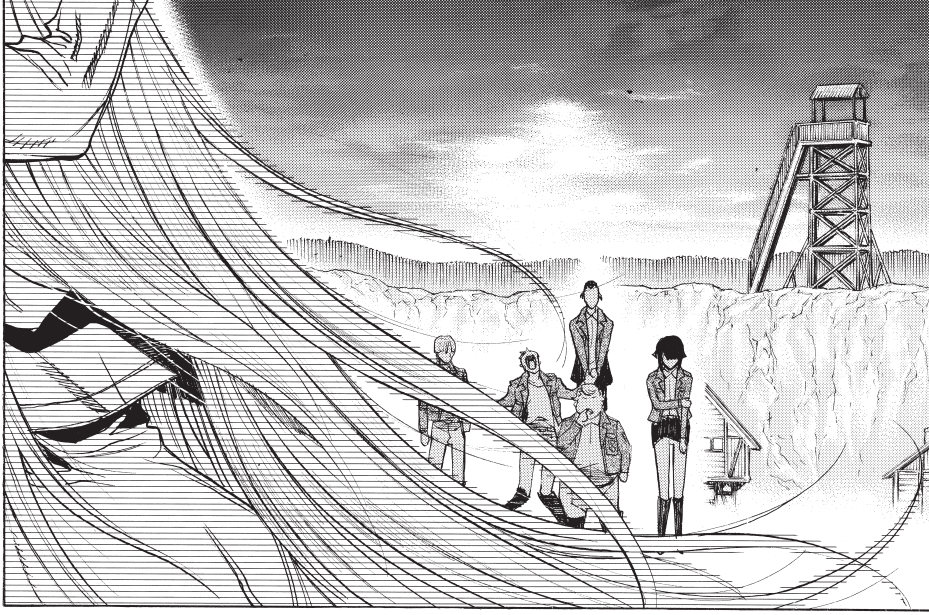


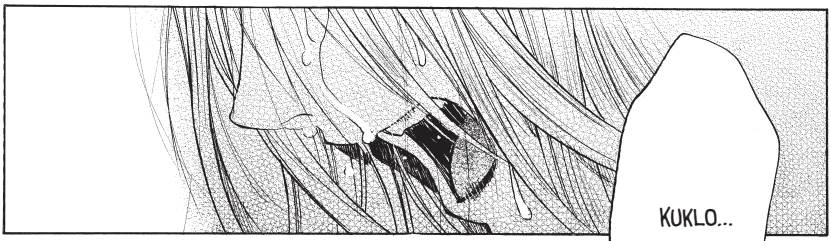

AND VERY IMPORTANT TO ME.
YES... SHE IS A GIRL.

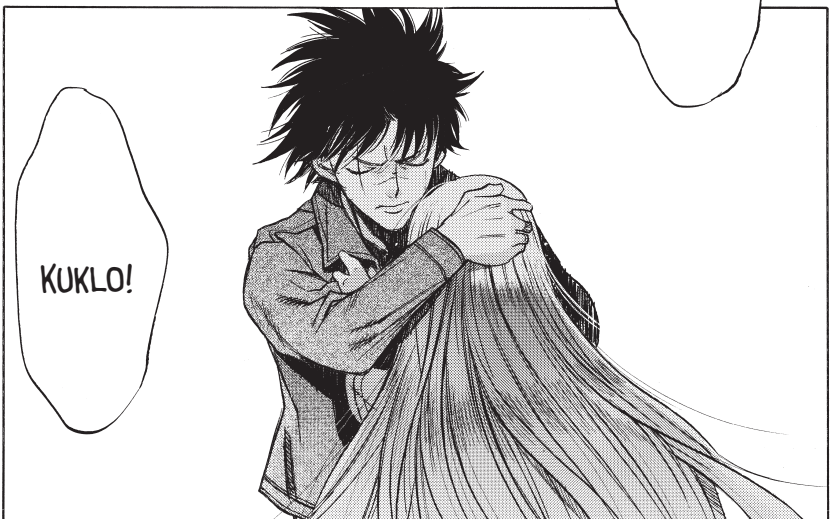

"SHARLE"...

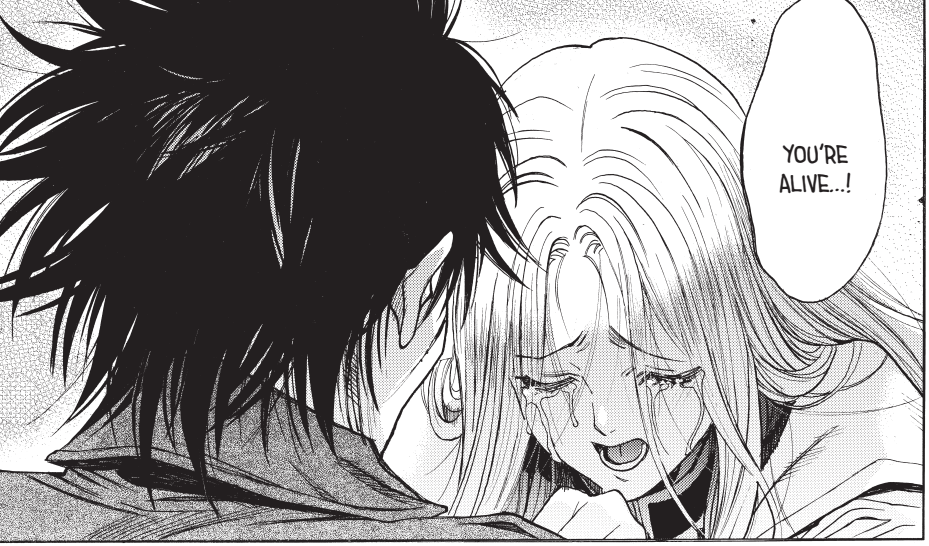


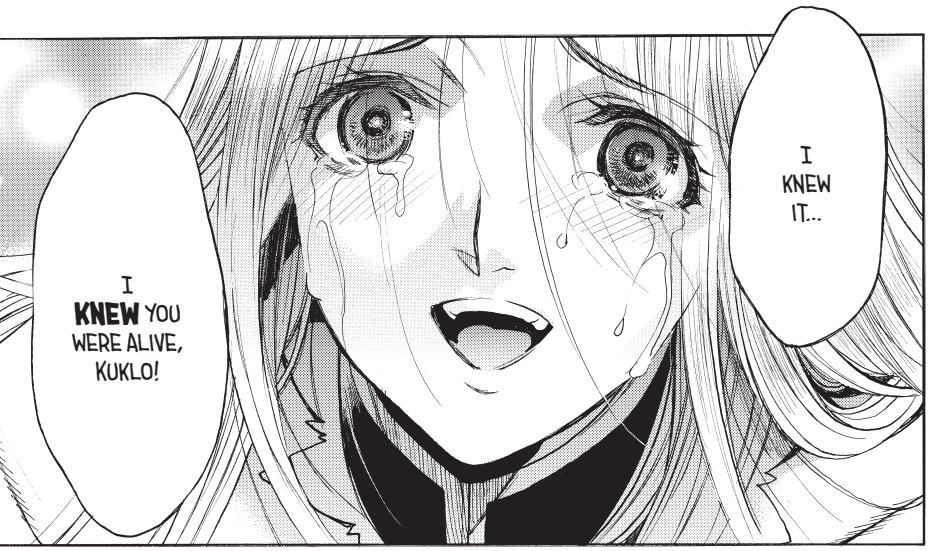
...I SEE.
GOOD FOR YOU, KUKLO ...




KUKLO...

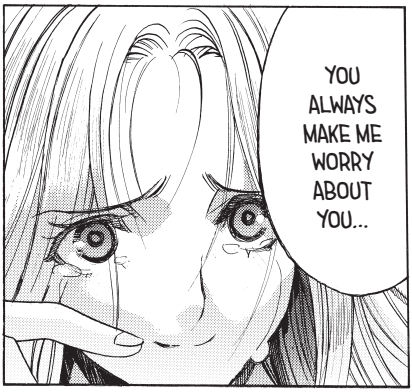

KUKLO!

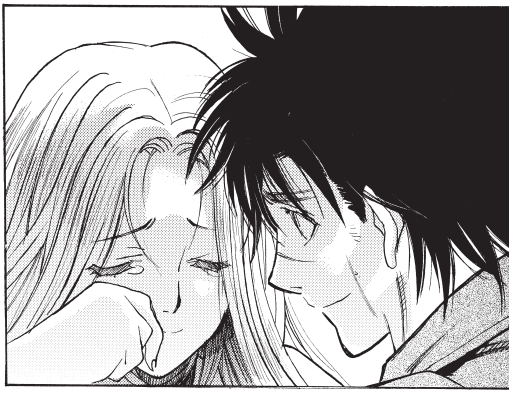

YOU'RE ALIVE...!


I KNEW IT...
I **KNEW** YOU WERE ALIVE, KUKLO!

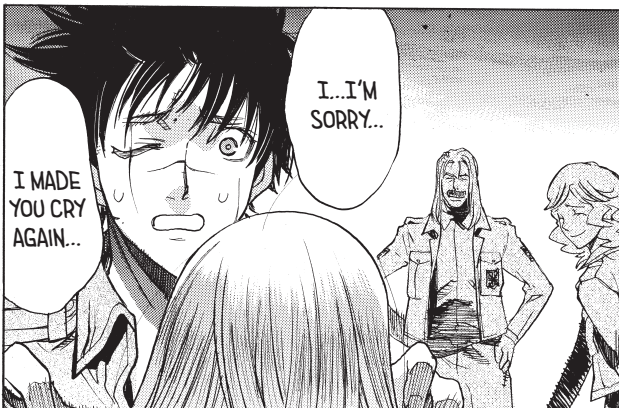
SNIFF!
SHARLE...

I'M GLAD YOU'RE WELL, TOO...


YOU ALWAYS MAKE ME WORRY ABOUT YOU...

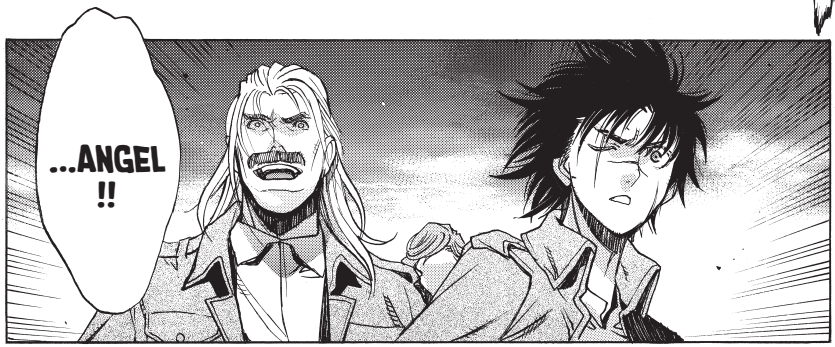


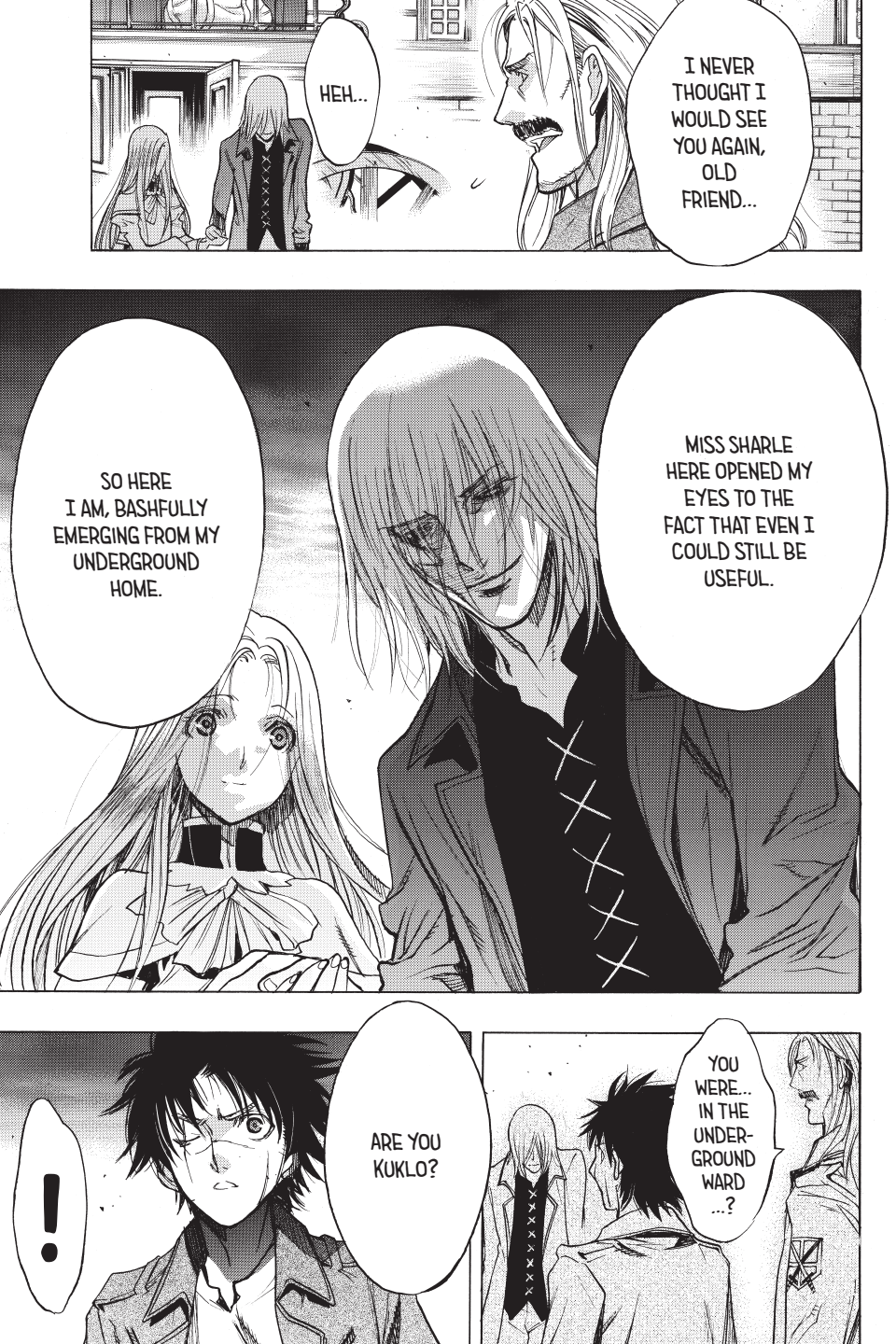
IT'S FINE. I CHOSE TO CRY.


I...I'M SORRY...
I MADE YOU CRY AGAIN...

I KNOW THAT YOU WON'T DIE. I KNOW YOU'LL ALWAYS COME BACK TO ME.
?!
SOUNDS LIKE SHE REALLY TRUSTS YOU.
I'VE BROUGHT YOU A FAMILIAR FACE FROM THE PAST.
THAT VOICE... IS THAT ...?!

TOK




I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD SEE YOU AGAIN, OLD FRIEND...
HEH...
MISS SHARLE HERE OPENED MY EYES TO THE FACT THAT EVEN I COULD STILL BE USEFUL.
SO HERE I AM, BASHFULLY EMERGING FROM MY UNDERGROUND HOME.
YOU WERE... IN THE UNDER-GROUND WARD ...?
ARE YOU KUKLO?
!

I'VE BEEN MAKING USE OF THE DEVICE!

...YEAH! I MEAN... YES!!

I APPRECIATE THE COMPLIMENT, BUT IT'S NOT UP TO THE EXPECTATIONS I HAD FOR IT.

HEH...

IT'S AN INCREDIBLE THING!!!

RIGHT OVER HERE!

OH... YES!

IS THERE A CARDINA HERE, TOO?

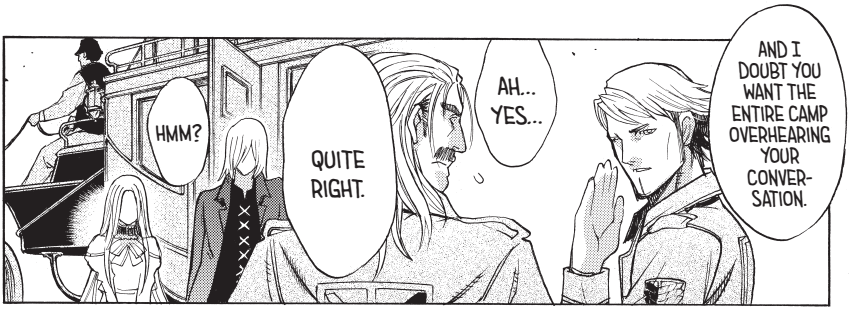
OH... NO, IT'S FINE...

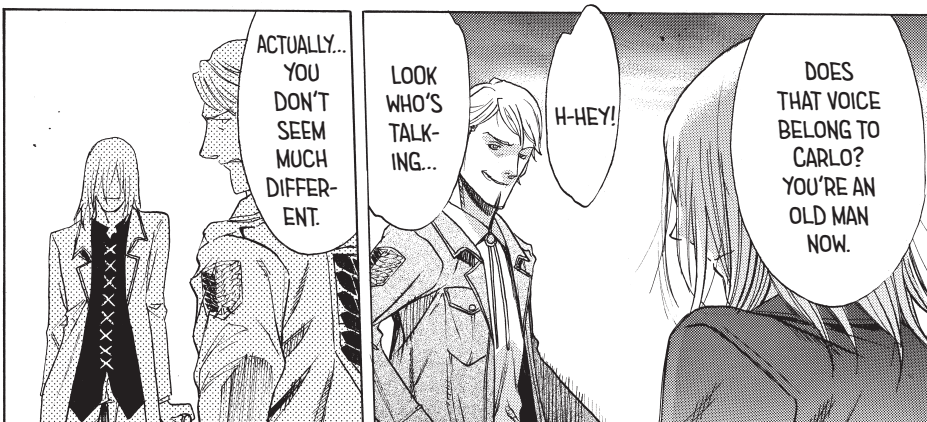
SORRY, I CAN ONLY MAKE OUT THE FUZZY CONTOURS.

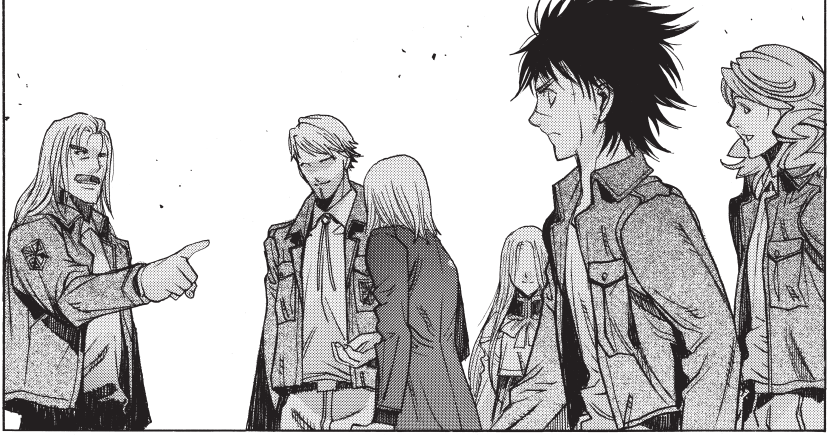
AH, THERE YOU ARE.

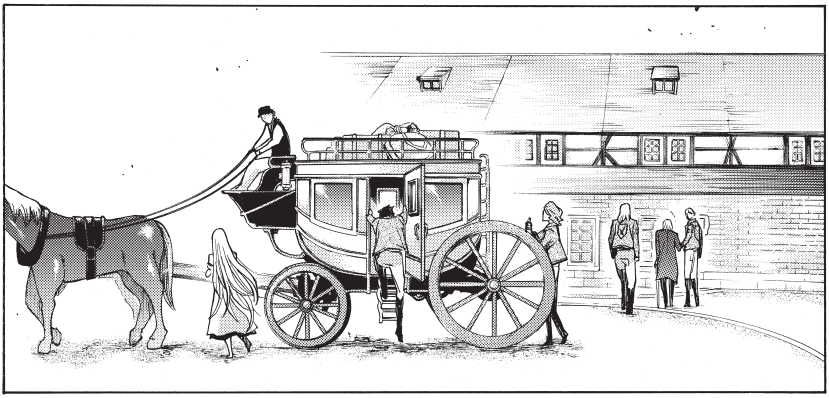
I HEARD ABOUT YOU AND KUKLO FROM MISS SHARLE HERE...
BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
YOU MET WITH XENO-PHON?!
THEN... IS THE INDUSTRIAL CI...
...AND FROM XENO-PHON AS WELL.
CLAP
CLAP

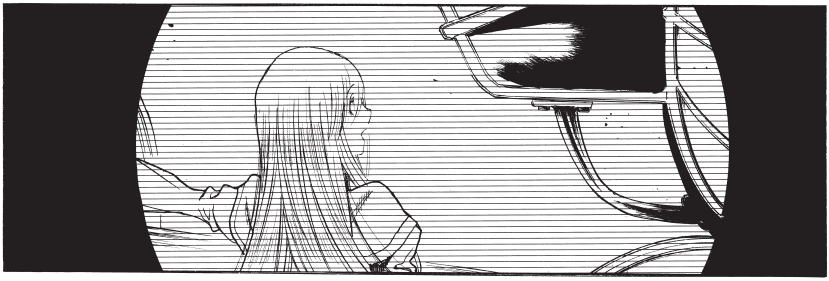
SHARLE AND ANGEL MUST BE TIRED FROM THEIR TRAVELS.
HOW ABOUT WE ALL FIND SOMEWHERE MORE COMFORTABLE TO TALK THAN STANDING OUTSIDE?

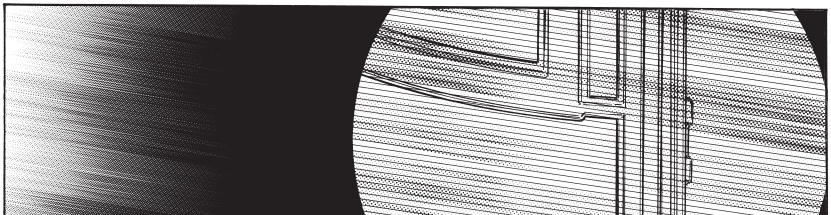

HMM?
QUITE RIGHT.
AH... YES...
AND I DOUBT YOU WANT THE ENTIRE CAMP OVERHEARING YOUR CONVER-SATION.

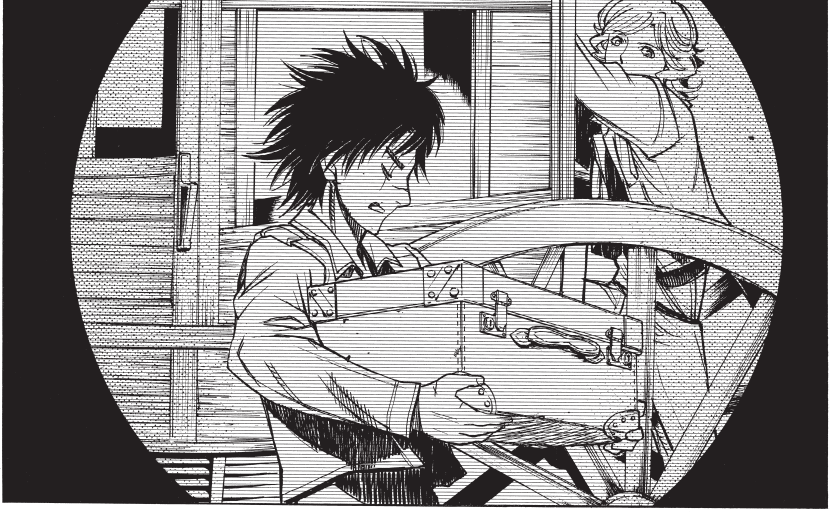

ACTUALLY... YOU DON'T SEEM MUCH DIFFER-ENT.
LOOK WHO'S TALK-ING...
H-HEY!
DOES THAT VOICE BELONG TO CARLO? YOU'RE AN OLD MAN NOW.

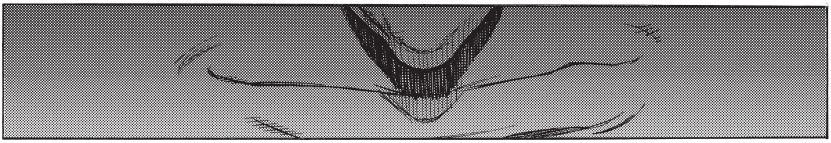




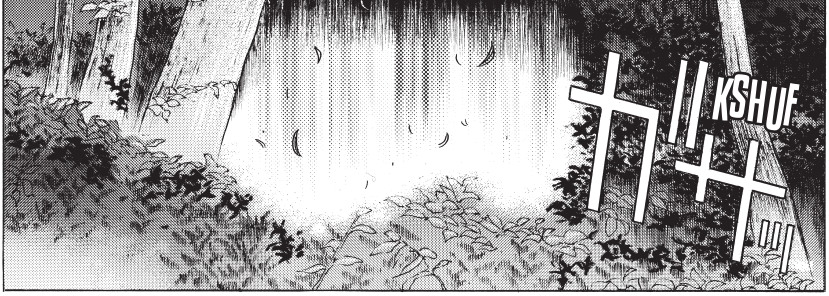






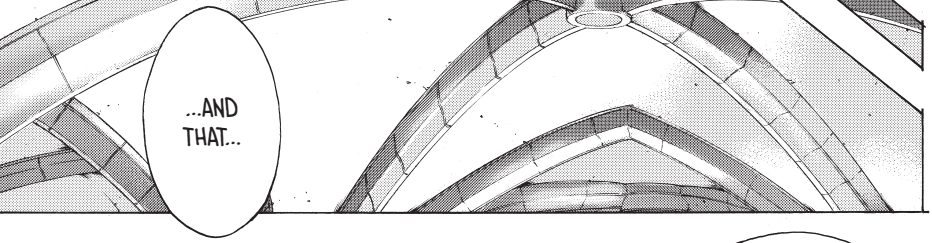


CLIK
SWOP

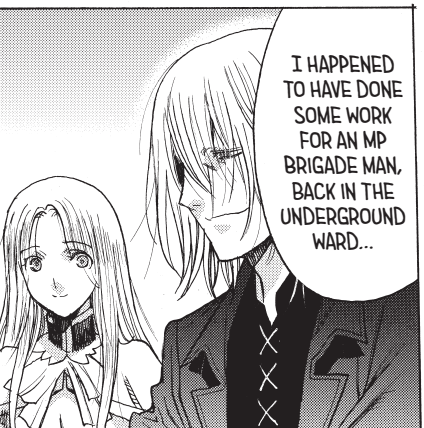

KSHUF
!!!

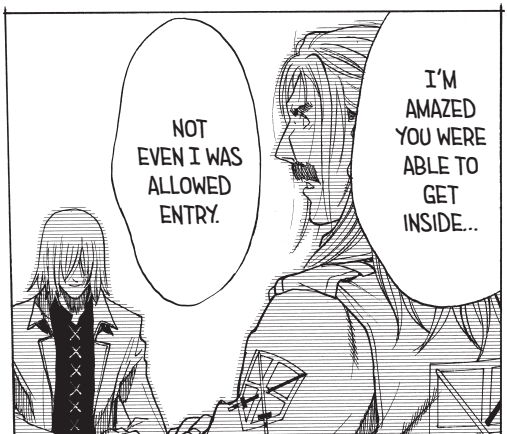
PAT

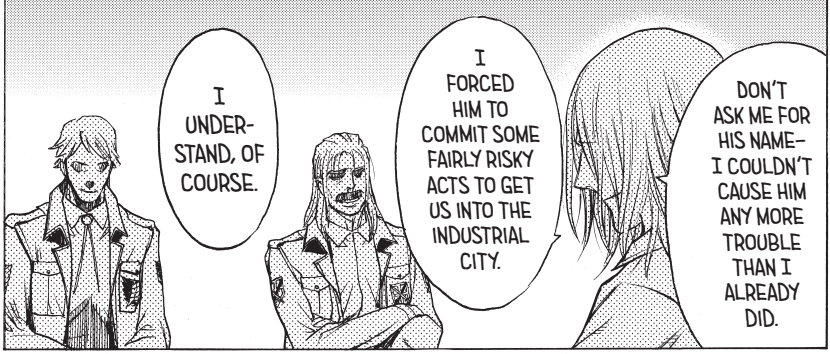
SO THE BOY...
...IS STILL BREATHING...

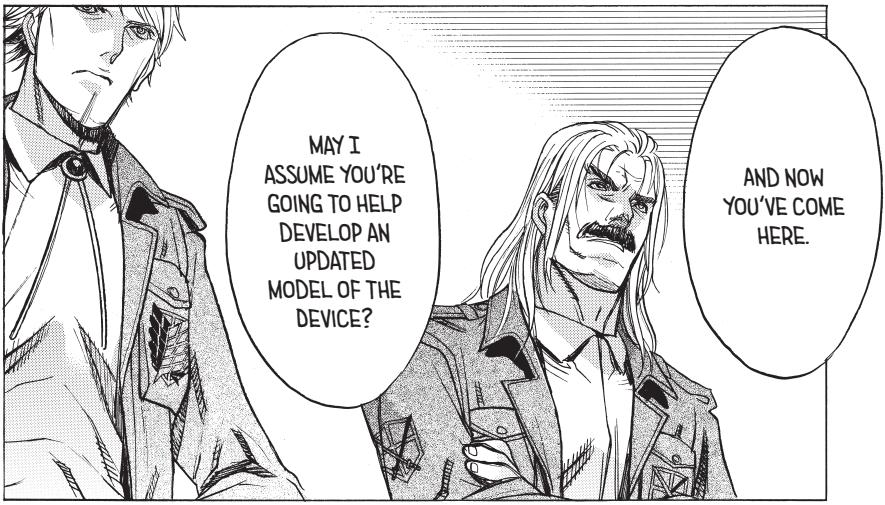

...AND THAT...

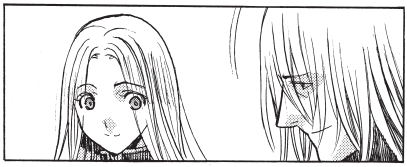
...IS HOW MISS SHARLE AND I MADE OUR WAY TO THE INDUSTRIAL CITY AND VISITED XENOPHON'S WORKSHOP.

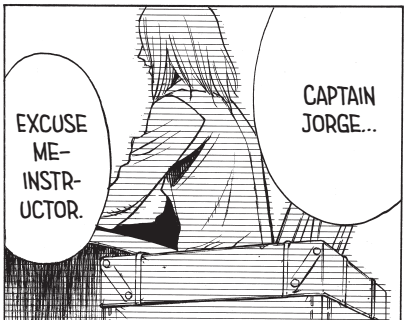

I HAPPENED TO HAVE DONE SOME WORK FOR AN MP BRIGADE MAN, BACK IN THE UNDERGROUND WARD...


NOT EVEN I WAS ALLOWED ENTRY.
I'M AMAZED YOU WERE ABLE TO GET INSIDE...


I UNDER-STAND, OF COURSE.
I FORCED HIM TO COMMIT SOME FAIRLY RISKY ACTS TO GET US INTO THE INDUSTRIAL CITY.
DON'T ASK ME FOR HIS NAME– I COULDN'T CAUSE HIM ANY MORE TROUBLE THAN I ALREADY DID.

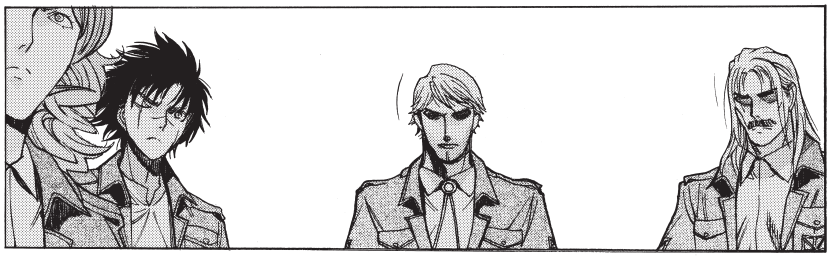

MAY I ASSUME YOU'RE GOING TO HELP DEVELOP AN UPDATED MODEL OF THE DEVICE?
AND NOW YOU'VE COME HERE.




CAPTAIN JORGE...
EXCUSE ME– INSTR-UCTOR.

THE FOREMAN AND SHARLE EXPLAINED OUR SITUATION TO YOU, I ASSUME.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE FLAW OF THE DEVICE I INVENTED 15 YEARS AGO IS THAT IT CAN ONLY MOVE ALONG A VERTICAL AXIS.

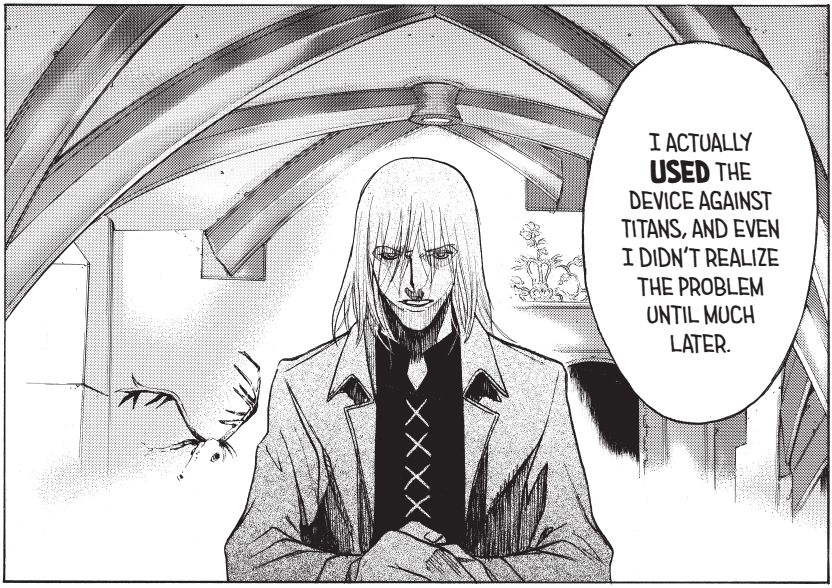


BEFORE I LOST MY SIGHT, XENOPHON DEMONSTRATED THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EXTRA FUNCTIONALITY THAT WOULD PROVIDE LATERAL MOVEMENT AS WELL...

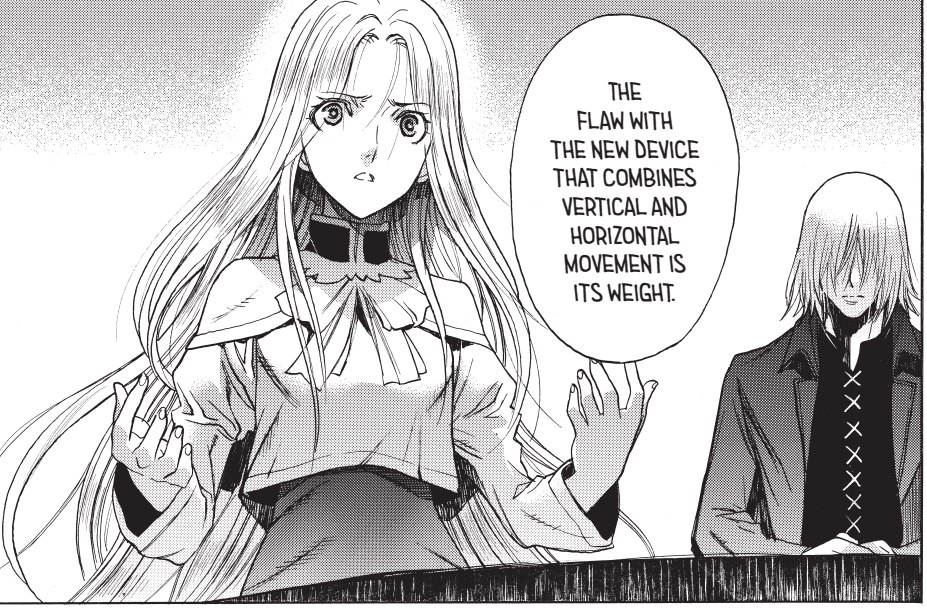
...AND HE WENT ON TO DEVELOP IT QUITE ADMIRABLY.

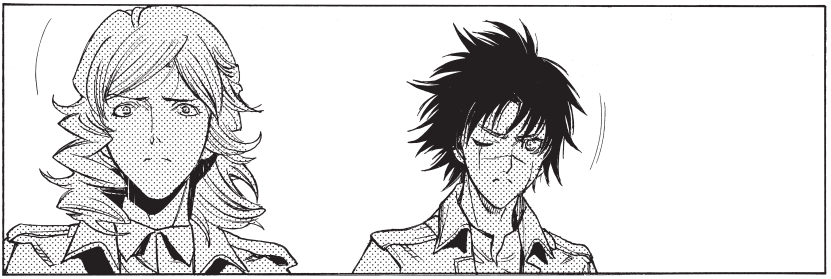
BUT SADLY, THAT NEW DEVICE WAS A FAILURE.

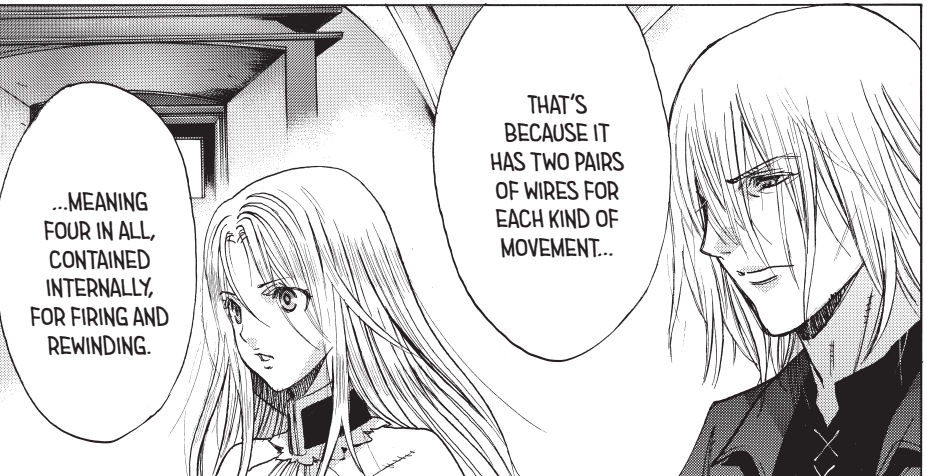
...THAT IS NOT XENOPHON'S FAULT.
BUT...
HMM...


I ACTUALLY **USED** THE DEVICE AGAINST TITANS, AND EVEN I DIDN'T REALIZE THE PROBLEM UNTIL MUCH LATER.

...WHICH IS?


THE FLAW WITH THE NEW DEVICE THAT COMBINES VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT IS ITS WEIGHT.



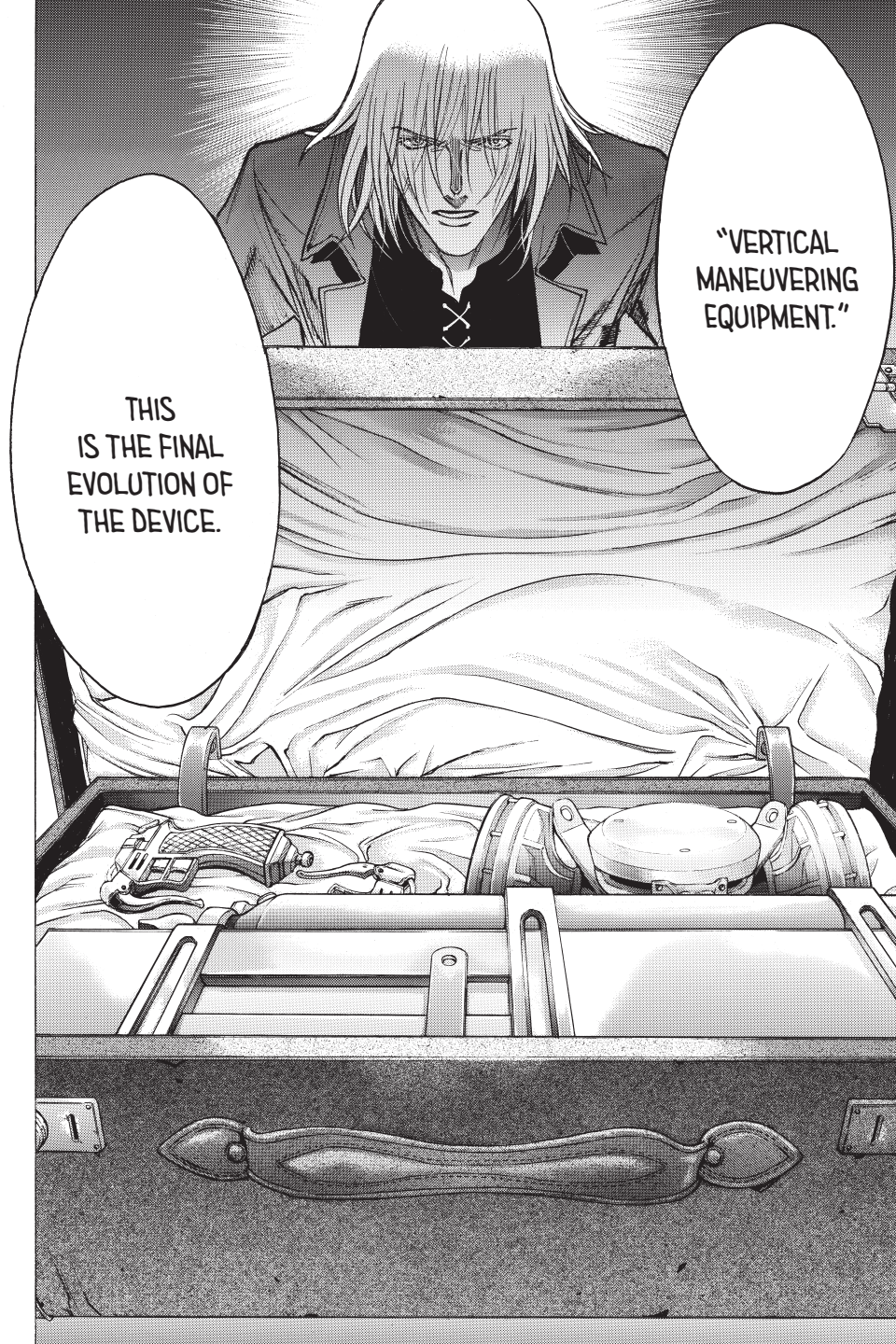

THAT'S BECAUSE IT HAS TWO PAIRS OF WIRES FOR EACH KIND OF MOVEMENT...
...MEANING FOUR IN ALL, CONTAINED INTERNALLY, FOR FIRING AND REWINDING.

...OF COURSE !!

THAT'S RIGHT...
IT SEEMS THAT KUKLO HAS DISCOVERED THE PROBLEM ALREADY.

THE TITANS ARE NOT STATIONARY TARGETS.

TWO WIRES WHOSE ANGLES CAN BE FREELY CONTROLLED BY THE USER'S BODY SHOULD BE BETTER SUITED.
IN THAT SENSE, TWO DIFFERENT PAIRS OF WIRES ON EACH SIDE IS A COMPLEX, FINICKY STRUCTURE.
WE DON'T NEED STABLE UP-AND-DOWN AND SIDEWAYS MOVEMENT, WE NEED THREE-DIMENSIONAL, ADAPTIVE AGILITY.
THUNK
AND THE ANSWER THAT XENOPHON AND I DEVISED IS...


"VERTICAL MANEUVERING EQUIPMENT."
THIS IS THE FINAL EVOLUTION OF THE DEVICE.

ATTACK ON TITAN
BEFORE THE FALL

TO BE CONTINUED

KC
KODANSHA
COMICS
FIRE SOLDIER
8
TOKYO
CO2
A new series from the creator of *Soul Eater*, the megahit manga and anime seen on Toonami!
"Fun and lively... a great start!"
-Adventures in Poor Taste
FIRE FORCE
By Atsushi Ohkubo
The city of Tokyo is plagued by a deadly phenomenon: spontaneous human combustion! Luckily, a special team is there to quench the inferno: The Fire Force! The fire soldiers at Special Fire Cathedral 8 are about to get a unique addition. Enter Shinra, a boy who possesses the power to run at the speed of a rocket, leaving behind the famous "devil's footprints" (and destroying his shoes in the process). Can Shinra and his colleagues discover the source of this strange epidemic before the city burns to ashes?
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KC KODANSHA COMICS

The Black Museum The Ghost and the Lady

By Kazuhiro Fujita

Deep in Scotland Yard in London sits an evidence room dedicated to the greatest mysteries of British history. In this "Black Museum" sits a misshapen hunk of lead—two bullets fused together—the key to a wartime encounter between Florence Nightingale, the mother of modern nursing, and a supernatural Man in Grey. This story is unknown to most scholars of history, but a special guest of the museum will tell the tale of *The Ghost and the Lady*...

Praise for Kazuhiro Fujita's *Ushio and Tora*

"A charming revival that combines a classic look with modern depth and pacing... **Essential viewing both for curmudgeons and new fans alike.**" — Anime News Network

"**GREAT!** The first episode of *Ushio and Tora* captures the essence of '90s anime." — IGN

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HAPPINESS

ハピネス

By **Shuzo Oshimi**

From the creator of *The Flowers of Evil*

Nothing interesting is happening in Makoto Ozaki's first year of high school. HIs life is a series of quiet humiliations: low-grade bullies, unreliable friends, and the constant frustration of his adolescent lust. But one night, a pale, thin girl knocks him to the ground in an alley and offers him a choice.

Now everything is different. Daylight is searingly bright. Food tastes awful. And worse than anything is the terrible, consuming thirst...

Praise for Shuzo Oshimi's *The Flowers of Evil*

"A shockingly readable story that vividly—one might even say queasily—evokes the fear and confusion of discovering one's own sexuality. Recommended." —The Manga Critic

"A page-turning tale of sordid middle school blackmail." —Otaku USA Magazine

"A stunning new horror manga." —Third Eye Comics

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KC KODANSHA COMICS

"I'm pleasantly surprised to find modern shojo using cross-dressing as a dramatic device to deliver social commentary... Recommended."

-Otaku USA Magazine

The Prince in his dark days

By Hico Yamanaka

A drunkard for a father, a household of poverty... For 17-year-old Atsuko, misfortune is all she knows and believes in. Until one day, a chance encounter with Itaru–the wealthy heir of a huge corporation–changes everything. The two look identical, uncannily so. When Itaru curiously goes missing, Atsuko is roped into being his stand-in. There, in his shoes, Atsuko must parade like a prince in a palace. She encounters many new experiences, but at what cost…?

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KC KODANSHA COMICS

Japan's most powerful spirit medium delves into the ghost world's greatest mysteries!

Story by Kyo Shirodaira, famed author of mystery fiction and creator of *Spiral*, *Blast of Tempest*, and *The Record of a Fallen Vampire*.

Both touched by spirits called yôkai, Kotoko and Kurô have gained unique superhuman powers. But to gain her powers Kotoko has given up an eye and a leg, and Kurô's personal life is in shambles. So when Kotoko suggests they team up to deal with renegades from the spirit world, Kurô doesn't have many other choices, but Kotoko might just have a few ulterior motives...

IN/SPECTRE

STORY BY KYO SHIRODAIRA
ART BY CHASHIBA KATASE

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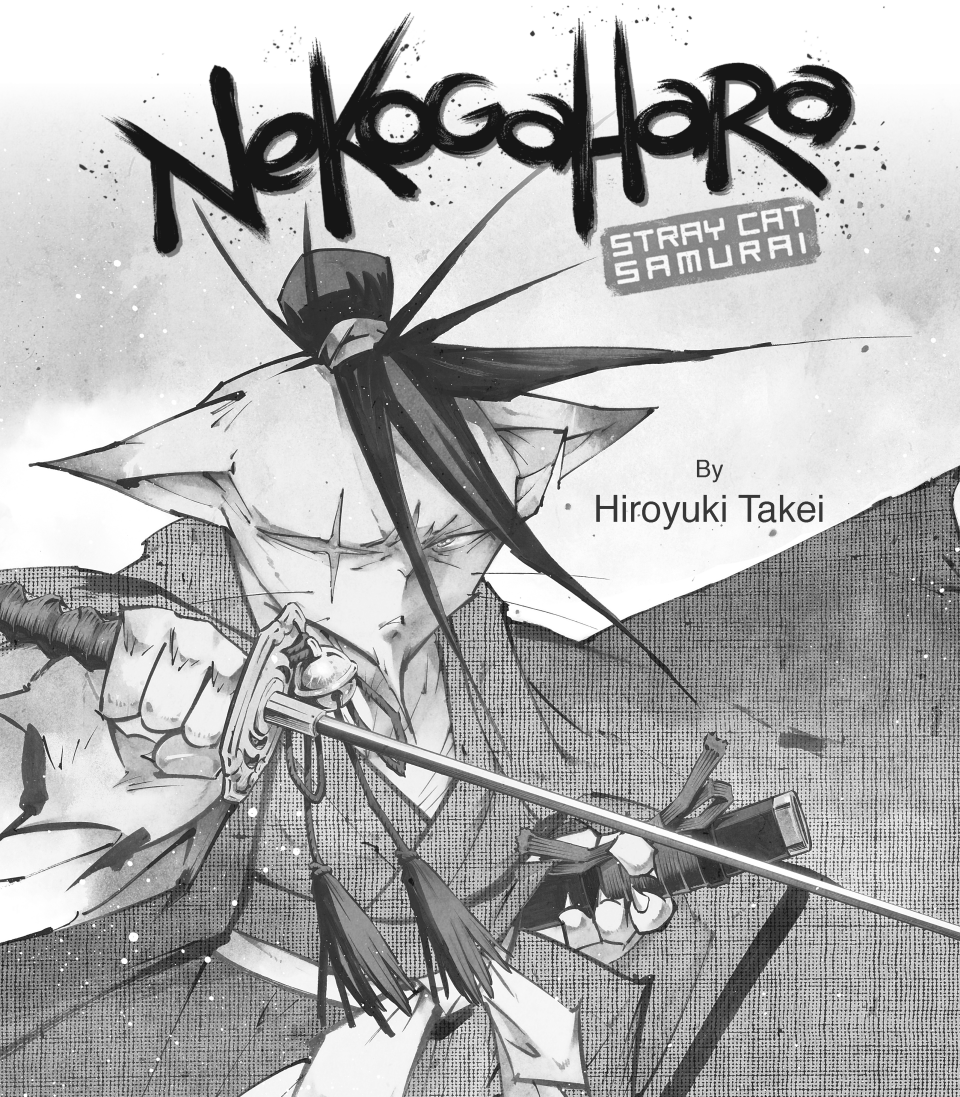
© Hiroyuki Takei/Kodansha Ltd. All rights reserved.

KC KODANSHA COMICS

New action series from Hiroyuki Takei, creator of the classic shonen franchise Shaman King!

In medieval Japan, a bell hanging on the collar is a sign that a cat has a master. Norachiyo's bell hangs from his katana sheath, but he is nonetheless a stray — a ronin. This one-eyed cat samurai travels across a dishonest world, cutting through pretense and deception with his blade.



"*Parasyte* fans should get a kick out of the chance to revisit Iwaaki's weird, violent, strangely affecting universe. Recommended." -Otaku USA Magazine

"A great anthology containing an excellent variety of genres and styles." -Manga Bookshelf

Based on the critically acclaimed classic horror manga

The first new *Parasyte* manga in over 20 years!

NEO PARASYTE

BY ASUMIKO NAKAMURA, EMA TOYAMA, MIKI RINNO, LALAKO KOJIMA, KAORI YUKI, BANKO KUZE, YUUKI OBATA, KASHIO, YUI KUROE, ASIA WATANABE, MIKIMAKI, HIKARU SURUGA, HAJIME SHINJO, RENJURO KINDAICHI, AND YURI NARUSHIMA

A collection of chilling new *Parasyte* stories from Japan's top shojo artists!

Parasites: shape-shifting aliens whose only purpose is to assimilate with and consume the human race... but do these monsters have a different side? A parasite becomes a prince to save his romance-obsessed female host from a dangerous stalker. Another hosts a cooking show, in which the real monsters are revealed. These and 13 more stories, from some of the greatest shojo manga artists alive today, together make up a chilling, funny, and entertaining tribute to one of manga's horror classics!

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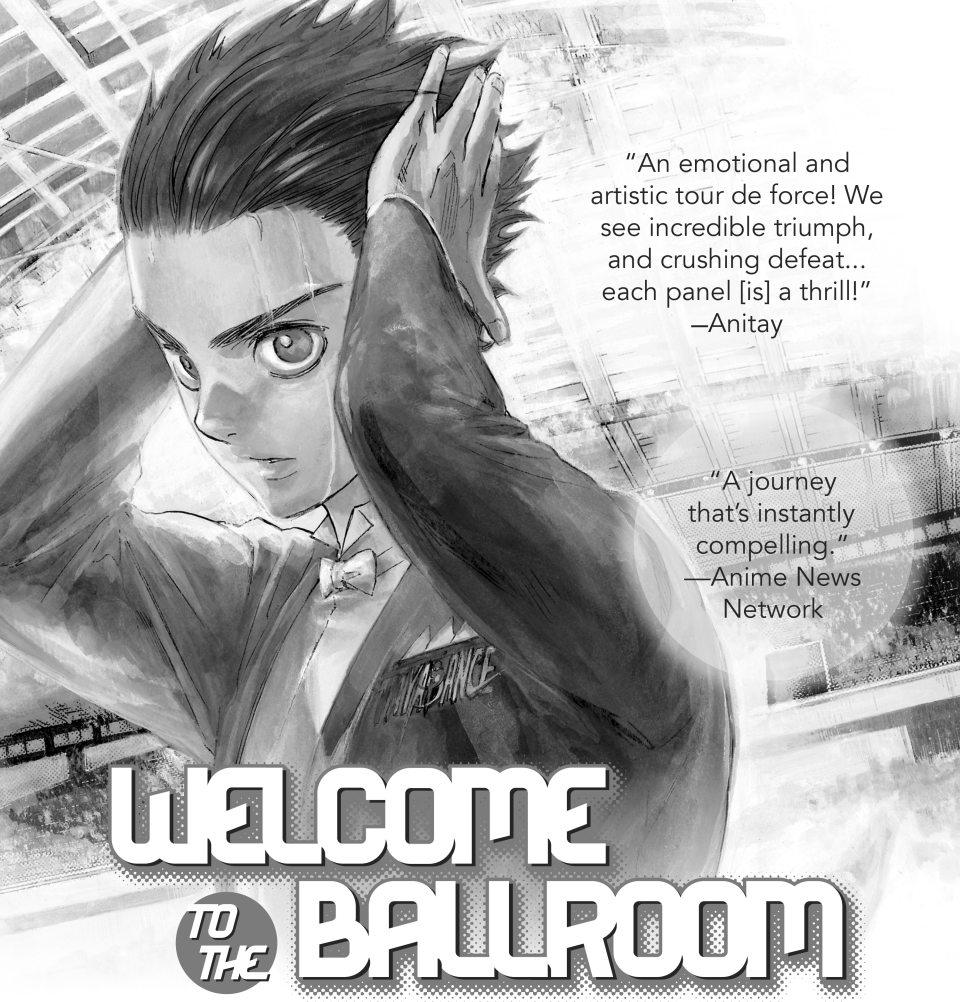
KC KODANSHA COMICS



By Tomo Takeuchi

Feckless high school student Tatara Fujita wants to be good at something—anything. Unfortunately, he's about as average as a slouchy teen can be. The local bullies know this, and make it a habit to hit him up for cash, but all that changes when the debonair Kaname Sengoku sends them packing. Sengoku's not the neighborhood watch, though. He's a professional ballroom dancer. And once Tatara Fujita gets pulled into the world of ballroom, his life will never be the same.

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The award-winning manga about what happens inside you!

"Far more entertaining than it ought to be... what kid doesn't want to think that every time they sneeze a torpedo shoots out their nose?"
–Anime News Network

Strep throat! Hay fever! Influenza! The world is a dangerous place for a red blood cell just trying to get her deliveries finished. Fortunately, she's not alone…she's got a whole human body's worth of cells ready to help out! The mysterious white blood cells, the buff and brash killer T cells, even the cute little platelets—everyone's got to come together if they want to keep you healthy!

Cells at Work!

はたらく細胞

By Akane Shimizu

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Having lost his wife, high school teacher Kōhei Inuzuka is doing his best to raise his young daughter Tsumugi as a single father. He's pretty bad at cooking and doesn't have a huge appetite to begin with, but chance brings his little family together with one of his students, the lonely Kotori. The three of them are anything but comfortable in the kitchen, but the healing power of home cooking might just work on their grieving hearts.

"This season's number-one feel-good anime!" —Anime News Network

"A beautifully-drawn story about comfort food and family and grief. Recommended." —Otaku USA Magazine

sweetness & lightning

By Gido Amagakure

KC KODANSHA COMICS

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Attack on Titan: Before the Fall 12

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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STOP!

You are going the *wrong way!*

Manga is a *completely* different type of reading experience.

To start at the *BEGINNING,* go to the *END!*

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way-from right to left, exactly the opposite of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: just go to the other end of the book, and read each page-and each panel-from the right side to the left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be.